

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, October 10, 2013

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Page 3



Getting the bug

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Page 8



Ladies' top 10

Yeltz women power their way to victory over Walsall

Page 39



A million more try tourism in region

AN EXTRA one million tourists have flocked to the Black Country top attractions, latest figures have revealed, bringing a welcome boost to jobs and the economy.

Leading attractions such as the Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Zoo have also helped swell foreign investment into the region. Visitor numbers went up by more than 840,000 to almost five million in 2012 – a 21 per cent growth in one year.

Civic leaders and business bosses have since heralded the role attractions were playing in putting the Black Country on the map.

Black Country Chamber of Commerce vice chairman Ninder Johal said: "The Black Country has been known as a manufacturing area and not enough people realise it has some wonderful attractions."

The region secured a 15 per cent rise in the number of new jobs created by foreign investors from 224 to 257 in 2012/13, according to statistics compiled by the Regional Observatory, the research arm operated by Marketing Birmingham.

Researchers value the Black Country visitor economy at £777.4 million in 2012 – an increase of six per cent since 2011. Dudley Zoo has continued this positive trend into 2013 with a 17 per cent rise in visitor numbers between January and July.

Pat ready to deliver fun

POSTMAN Pat will be swapping Greendale for Stourbridge next month, and he dropped in to deliver the message personally.

He visited the town for a rattle and rhyme session at the library, attended by children from Shooting Stars nursery.

Then he took a walk around the area, calling at Stourbridge Town Hall, where he will perform during half term on October 30.

Councillor Tracy Woods, Dudley Council cabinet member for culture said: "We were really excited to welcome Postman Pat to Stourbridge."

SHOCK AT TRAGEDY OF FLIER IN CRASH

Report by Louise Jew

MICROLIGHT groups have spoken of their shock after a pilot was killed when his aircraft crashed into power lines. Paramedics battled to save Andy Tollerton after his two-seater aircraft struck lines in a Stourton field at around 6pm on Sunday.

The 52-year-old died and an investigation was launched on Monday, with specialists from the Air Accidents Investigation Branch dispatched to the scene by Barratt's Coppice in Bridgnorth Road.

Microlight groups said they were 'very shocked' to hear what had happened to Mr Tollerton. Stephen Wilkes, of HadAir based at Halfpenny Green Airport, in Bobbington, near Stourbridge, added: "It is very sad to hear of something like this happening."

Robin Needs, who owns the field where Mr Tollerton's microlight came down, said: "In terms of the field I have been told the investigation has been completed.

"As far as I am aware the specialist team has now finished its work here."

A pilot has died after his microlight crashed into power lines near Stourbridge.

His devastated family in Wollaston said the father of two had died 'doing what he loved to do'.

The crash wiped out power to properties in the surrounding area. Emergency services were called to the scene by Barratt's Coppice, Bridgnorth Road, at around 6pm.

Police said his family would be supported by specially-trained officers.

Circled

Mr Tollerton's sister-in-law paid tribute to him on behalf of his family. She said: "He had been flying a number of years. He was a loving dad and husband. He absolutely doted on his daughters, who are both teenagers. He was passionate about flying and he died doing what he loved to do."

Mr Needs said he was harvesting potatoes about a half-a-mile away from the crash site. He said the pilot circled around and hit the wires straight above where the aircraft crashed and called the emergency services and then his wife Vicki, a first aider, went to help the man.

She held his hand and told him help was on the way. Mr Needs said: "He had used the field at least dozen times. I know him as Microlight Andy. He's a lovely chap and this was his hobby."

The ambulance service sent the hazardous area response team, while fire crews from Stourbridge and Kinver were called to the scene to help following the crash.

Couple's Dickens of a romance



Sarah Rose as Nancy and Steve Coussens as Bill Sykes get ready for Oliver!

TREADING the boards is a thrill for many amateur actors but for one pair, performing has given them much more – they fell in love while playing a couple on stage.

Steve Coussens and Sarah Rose started dating after playing partners in the Our House musical based on the works of band Madness, three years ago.

Now they are celebrating getting engaged as they prepare for their next big roles.

Early on September 14, Mr Coussens, of The Drive, Halesowen, proposed to Miss Rose while they were on holiday in Las

Vegas, having watched Evil Dead: The Musical on the night of Friday the 13th.

Now the real couple's lastest role seen them play a fictional couple – the roles of Nancy and Bill Sykes in a performance of Oliver!, which was staged by Brierley Hill Musical Theatre Company.

Miss Rose, aged 36, a marketing manager for Instarmac in Tamworth, said: "It's bit unusual playing these roles but we've used a proper stage fighting company for some of the scenes so nobody should actually get hurt."

Abusive taxi man used cue to hit car

A MAN who was abusive to a taxi driver and damaged his vehicle with a pool cue has been spared an immediate custodial sentence.

Joshua Fletcher had drunk heavily with his girlfriend on a night out before getting into a fight with a taxi driver over the cost of a journey, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, told the court on August 17 the fight was with a Warley Cars driver outside his Rowley Regis home. But it was after this fight ended, and the driver had left that Fletcher went into his home for the pool cue.

Mr Searle said Fletcher phoned the taxi firm and asked for a taxi – he expected the same driver, but a different one arrived: "He got into the vehicle, and was immediately abusive to the driver."

The court heard that the driver got out of the car as did Fletcher, who took out the pool cue which was inside his trousers.

Mr Searle said: "He then started swinging the pool cue at the taxi, causing damage. In fact it was £400 worth of damage."

Fletcher, aged 19, of Duke Street pleaded guilty to being in possession of an offensive weapon, damaging property and using threatening language and behaviour. He was sentenced to eight months in a young offenders institution, suspended for 18 months.

Food tasting at hospital

A HOSPITAL is holding special tasting sessions with patients in a drive to improve food after getting a low rating for its quality.

Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley scored lower than the national average for 'food and hydration' in a new inspection.

In August, a national survey showed Russells Hall's food was rated among the worst in the country – with only 44 per cent of patients saying they were happy with what they were served up.

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£3m to be spent on new fleet

MORE than £3 million will be invested in new buses next year as National Express West Midlands modernises its fleet.

Around 20 new vehicles will be added to the fleet based in West Bromwich to deal with the increasing number of passengers using local services.

The introduction of the modern fleet is part of a larger £17m investment by bosses as the bus operator aims to improve local bus services.

Jack Kelly, spokesman for National Express West Midlands, said: "We are pleased to announce we plan to build on last year's £2 million investment into bus travel in Sandwell with around 20 new vehicles worth £3 million."

"The buses will arrive at our West Bromwich depot next year and are part of our nationwide £17 million investment program for 2014."

"We are also continuing our investment into a refurbishment programme that will help keep our existing buses at a high standard."

West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson has been the first to welcome the decision to invest in new buses for the borough.

More buses going green

DOZENS of 'green' buses are to be put on to the streets of the West Midlands under a multi-million pound project.

It comes as part of a government scheme to either fund new buses or pay for the refitting of existing ones to clean up their exhaust fumes.

The plan will see 29 buses in the West Midlands given exhaust gas treatment.

Transport minister Norman Baker announced the £3.4 million scheme to provide 99 buses nationally.

He said: "This money will improve air quality in towns and cities across England."

Focus on rock band at Robin

LEGENDARY Dutch prog rockers Focus will appear at a leading Black Country music venue on Monday.

The band who had hits with Hocus Pocus and Sylvia, will be at the Robin 2 in Mount Pleasant, Bilston at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 or £16 on the door.

New rules on lenders a step forward – MP

A DUDLEY MP who has been running a campaign against payday lenders has said tough new rules which are due to be enforced are a big step forward.

Ian Austin has been running a campaign against payday lenders, particularly in Dudley High Street and now, companies who offer speedy loans at very high interest rates will be hit with tougher regulation in a bid to stop families getting into a spiral of debt.

The new regulator for consumer credit, the Financial Conduct Authority, intends to limit to two, the number of times a payday loan can be rolled-over, ban misleading

adverts and impose compulsory affordability checks for all loan applicants. Martin Wheatley, the authority's chief executive said: "I am putting payday lenders on notice: Tougher regulation is coming and I expect them all to make changes so that consumers can get a fair outcome. The clock is ticking."

Afford

Mr Austin said: "This is a big step forward, it shows our campaign has had an impact and it should tackle some of the abuses, but I'll keep campaigning on this because I think we need limits to the overall

costs of credit and more government support for community banks like Dudley's Castle and Crystal who provide low-cost credit on terms people can afford."

The growth of payday lenders, such as Wonga, QuickQuid and others, has become such a concern that Sandwell, Dudley and Wolverhampton councils have all blocked access to payday lending websites from computers in libraries or other public buildings. Staffordshire's libraries are not banning them as councillors say people should have 'freedom of choice'.

But from next April restrictions will be placed on the number of recurring pay-

ments they are allowed to collect after complaints that they are unexpectedly draining borrowers' bank accounts of cash.

Information on where to get free help with debts must be given to every borrower who rolls over a loan and 'clear risk warnings' must be displayed on all adverts.

The FCA will take over regulation of consumer credit from the Office of Fair Trading.

Russell Hamblin-Boone, chief executive of the Consumer Finance Association, which represents many payday lenders, has warned that it could drive people to illegal loan sharks.

NEWS

in brief

Car dealer aims to raise £260,000

A CAR dealership which has a base in Dudley is on a mission to collect more than £260,000 for a cancer charity.

Evans Halshaw is supporting Hope for Tomorrow.

The dealership has sites in Wolverhampton, Stourbridge and Walsall.

Hope for Tomorrow works to ease some of the stress and strains associated with receiving treatment for cancer.

The dealerships will now run fundraising events such as car washes and cake sales.

Father accused of murder attempt

A FATHER has appeared in court charged with the attempted murder of his son.

George Adam, aged 50, is accused of stabbing his 28-year-old son Shane 13 times in an attack in Perry Road, Oldbury.

George Adam, from Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, appeared at Sandwell Magistrates Court charged with attempted murder last week.

He did not enter a plea and was remanded in custody until January 6.

Monthly car sales at a five-year high

MORE than 400,000 cars were sold in September – the biggest monthly total for more than five years – as West Midlands company Jaguar Land Rover said it had broken its own sales records.

JLR, currently building a new engine factory that will supply its soon-to-launch 'baby' Jaguar saloon, said its sales were up 13 per cent so far this year.

Nationally, car sales figures were boosted by the latest September 63 registration.

Open weekend on waterways

ENTHUSIASTS will be descending on the waterways to celebrate an annual open weekend this month.

Dozens of narrowboats will be at the Stourbridge Navigation Trust open weekend in the town.

They will line the Stourbridge Town Arm canal near the Bonded Warehouse site, off Canal Street.

This year's event takes place on October 19 and 20 from 10am to 5pm.

Drug den near school shut down after locals complain

A DRUGS den discovered near a school has been closed down and boarded up, to the great relief of its neighbours and nearby businesses.

The property has been officially closed after magistrates granted a Crack House Closure Order. The building in Waggon Street, Cradley Heath, is near the Ormiston Forge Academy school, in Wrights Lane.

by Alex Homer

unless they have the authority of the police.

Police action came after sharp-eyed members of the public passed on information about suspected drug dealing.

They also noticed there was anti-social behaviour and people coming and going at all hours of the day and night.

Andrew Burns, principal of the nearby school, said: "It's important to state that this issue has not impacted on the safety of our students.

"We take the safeguarding of students very seriously," he added.

Evidence

"We operate a closed site. Gates are controlled 24/7 and staff are on duty whenever students are travelling to and from school."

The evidence which prompted the court order was gathered after officers executed a series of drugs warrants.

The order, which was granted by Sandwell Magistrates Court on September 16, makes it illegal for anybody to enter the address

"It's definitely a good thing police have done something about it."

"Nobody wants something like that next to their house. You can't go around judging people who have got an addiction but when you feel scared, that's when something has got to be done."

A man who lives nearby but did not wish to be named out of fear of reprisals, said: "It's good that police try and clear the area up. They've got to sort things like this out properly."

Garry Foster, aged 53, of Linwood Road, Dudley, was found dead on the river bank at Grimley, near Claines, South Worcestershire.

The inquest was opened last week at Worcestershire Coroners Court, in Stourport. It was adjourned to await reports into the circumstances of Mr Foster's death.

Players seeing red on golfing green

GOLFERS young and old have taken to the green dressed in red to raise money for a charity that helps children with cancer.

More than 40 players gathered at Himley Hall Golf Club to take on each other and the 18 challenging holes to raise money for the Children with Cancer UK charity.

This is the fourth year in a row that junior players from the club's academy were invited to bring along an adult and face each other to win the Young'uns and Dads Cup, which will be presented at a special ceremony at the end of November.

Children

The day was organised by one of the Partners at Himley Hall Golf Club, Margaret Baker as part of a year-long fundraising drive for the charity which has already seen the club hold a charity concert on the green.

She said: "We had a friend who died from cancer and he always said the worst thing for him was seeing the children on the wards."

"We always look forward to charity events and the young players have worked so hard on this."

Guests were asked to wear red to show support for the charity.

Committee member and leader of the junior section, Dave Cox added: "Ever since we started this we have had a brilliant response from our younger members."



Jake Walley, right, gets set to tee off with club professional Mark Sparrow, Luke Millard, Alex Cox, Margaret Baker, organiser, and Dan Richards, for the charity golf game

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THE BEST

"I'm a ginger so I'm 10 times more likely to make up a statistic." Comedian Shawn Hitchins, apologising for claiming, incorrectly, that a fifth of all the world's redheads live in Scotland. That's the problem with making claims based on statistics. You either do it boldly, confidently and with utter conviction or you do it, er, gingerly.

□□□□□□□□

IT WAS wrong of the Daily Mail to accuse Ed Miliband's Marxist father of hating Britain – especially when the only hard evidence came from a diary Ralph Miliband wrote when he was just 17. I shudder at the thought of being judged by anything I wrote at 17. To be damned by something your father wrote in his teens is grotesquely unfair.

□□□□□□□□

AND yet, as Enoch Powell once observed, a politician complaining about the Press is like a ship's captain complaining about the sea. Politics is a dirty game but all the players are volunteers. The first rule is that once you sign up, people will want to know everything about you. Ed Miliband could be the next prime minister, leading a nuclear-armed nation of 60 million. He deserves exactly the same level of scrutiny as any other prime minister-in-waiting. In a perfect world a politician's dead parents would not be fair game. But remember the scorn, the sneering, the cartoons, the Spitting Image gags when the Left discovered to its glee that the Tory leader John Major was the son of a one-time circus performer? What's sauce for the Majors is sauce for the Milibands.

□□□□□□□□

THIS week it was announced that the British Army is recruiting reservists who are IT experts to wage war in cyberspace. Without a shot being fired, a new generation of squaddies will slip hugely complex viruses into enemy computers, wrecking their infrastructure. Obviously, platoons of cyber-warriors will have to be organised into a new regiment. The Queen's Own Geeks?

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THE strangest complaint during the Fire Brigades Union strike was the firefighter moaning on Radio 4 that she had expected a 30-year career and it now looked like becoming a 40-year career. Comrades, this is an outrage. Let us raise the scarlet banner high to fight the monstrous imposition of a job for life.

□□□□□□□□

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes
every Monday to Friday in
your Express & Star**

Walk-in health centre closure plans criticised

PLANS to close a walk-in health clinic and move services back to GP practices have come under fire amid fears not all surgeries could offer the necessary extended opening hours.

Health chiefs in Dudley have revealed proposals to shut the borough's walk-in centre based at Holly Hall Clinic, based in Stourbridge Road.

by Andrew Turton

with the service at the walk-in centre.

"The reason a lot of people use it is because they often ring their GP practice and can't get an appointment so it is more convenient."

Mr Austin added: "In the modern era, when it is possible to go shopping at all hours and access all sorts of other services in the evening and at weekends, I don't see why GPs should not provide a service to people who go out to work and pay the taxes that keeps the NHS running at a time that suits them."

Dudley Council's health scrutiny committee chairman Councillor Susan Ridney says she is concerned what help will be in place for patients if the centre closes. "The one thing we most wish to see is a consistency of service across GP practices in the borough because the big question is will they all be able to offer the services and have extended hours for example," she said.

"It would be fine for some of the larger practices to provide this but I'm not sure whether that could happen at smaller individual surgeries. When speaking to constituents they have always said how happy they were

People can have their say by visiting www.dudley-ecg.nhs.uk/urgent-care

Choir teams up with quartet



Front, Rosemary Phillips and Cedric Smith with, from left, Eric Asbury, Sheila Crofts, Jan Clements and Ron Clements from Viva Musica Choir

A DUDLEY choir will be joined by a top classical quartet when they perform at the Town Hall on Sunday.

Viva Musica will hold its annual concert at the venue and the group has invited Amore to perform on the same night. The quartet was watched by millions of people last year as they performed for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations at the Thames River pageant. Earlier this year they performed the traditional FA Cup Final hymn Abide with Me at Wembley Stadium. They were also due to sing at Clyde Auditorium in Glasgow with other guests, such as Talia Storm and Susan Boyle, for the Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice 30th Anniversary Variety Performance.

Secretary of Viva Musica, Sheila Crofts, from Halesowen, said: "We are pleased to get such a well-known group to come along and perform with us."

Dudley's Viva Musica was launched 24 years ago and has about 70 members. Tickets are available from www.dudley.gov.uk/entertainment or Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley.

Warning as water company gripes fall

COMPLAINTS to water companies have fallen for the fifth year in a row, according to the latest figures published.

But a watchdog has warned the companies they face a backlash if they fail to deliver value for money.

The Consumer Council for Water (CCW) warned poor performing water businesses that they must close the gap with the rest of the industry.

Among the best performers, however, were Severn Trent and South Staffs Water – both scored way above the national average of a 7.4 reduction in the number of written complaints from customers.

South Staffs had one of the best results in the country, with a 33.6 per cent drop in the number of complaints, from 2,475 to just 1,643.

The company provides water to large parts of the Black Country, including Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley, together with areas of Staffordshire including Lichfield and Cannock Chase.

Sewage services for the area are provided by bigger neighbour Severn Trent.

Meanwhile Severn Trent, which serves eight million customers across central England and Wales, the number of complaints fell from 20,706 to 17,858, a fall of 13.8 per cent.

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Store gives a boost to aid charity

AROUND £500 has been donated to a men's cancer charity to help pay for a mobile clinic to raise awareness.

Staff at the PerfectHome store in Dudley's Churchill shopping centre dug deep to bring in hundreds of pounds for the Balls to Cancer charity.

The charity, which is based in Dudley, has organised events aiming to bring in cash to raise awareness of cancer in men.

The clinic will be travelling to charity events and football grounds around the country encouraging men to pluck up the courage to see the on-site doctor.

Mark Bates, from Coseley, founded Balls to Cancer in 2011 following the death of his father Geoff in 1994.

He thanked the store, adding: "The potential for the travelling clinic to save lives and fight cancer is massive, and the donation is a big help."

Store assistant manager Martyn Richards, who nominated the charity, wants to raise an extra £500.

Traders claim a bollards victory

TRADERS have declared victory in their campaign to have plastic bollards removed from outside their premises in Dudley.

Owners said the barriers were harming trade in Wolverhampton Street. Dudley Council said the barriers were put in due to motorists using blue badges to park on double yellow lines.

Camcorder to spearhead a crackdown on reserve yobs

A CLAMPDOWN on anti-social behaviour at a beauty spot in Dudley has been launched by wardens who hope to catch troublemakers in the act.

They will be able to capture any problems at Saltwells Nature Reserve in Netherton on camera after receiving funding for a camcorder.

The site often suffers from people causing a nuisance such as criminal damage and groups of youngsters congregating and fly-tipping.

There have also been problems in the past with off-road bikes being ridden illegally and dangerously around the paths at the reserve. Police officers from the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood neighbourhood team successfully applied for £300 from the Dudley Council Community Forum to purchase the camera for the wardens.

They will now be able to film and take pictures of criminal activity.

Peso Nicholas Woods of the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood policing team said: "The reserve is often subject to criminal damage

■ by Heather Large

with groups of youngsters congregating. In the past off-road bikers have used the park to ride bikes illegally and dangerously. The camcorder will allow us to assess the type and scale of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour that is taking place in the area.

"We work really closely with the wardens at Saltwells Nature Reserve. I would also ask members of the public to report incidents of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour to local police or to the Saltwells wardens."

In April around 20 shopping trolleys were left strewn around the 247-acre reserve, prompting anger from ward councillors.

500 try for police roles

MORE than 500 people applied for 50 police community support officer roles with West Midlands Police. Hundreds of applications flooded in in just over a week. Police bosses issued another call for applicants as the deadline approached. Peso are needed to join policing teams in areas including Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Couple dance their way to 60th year



Ron and Sylvia Moss mark their anniversary with a message from the Queen



On their wedding day back in 1953

THEY were just teenagers when they met at dance classes, and their romance was held up due to the Second World War, but a couple grabbed the chance to marry as soon as they could.

Ron Moss and his wife Sylvia have celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary. The couple tied the knot 60 years ago at St Lukes Church in Cradley Heath.

They first met in their teenage years

at the former Workers Institute in Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, which has since been moved to the Black Country Living Museum, but Mr Moss was called away to serve two years in the medical corps in Egypt, reaching the rank of Corporal.

On his return however, the pair again met at dance classes and began courting. Sylvia's family tradition was such that she would not marry until she turned 21 years old.

She duly did one Wednesday and

married Ron on the Saturday of the same week. A past president of the Black Country Society and a local historian, Mr Moss said the couple had always worked well as a team. Mr Moss, a retired engineer, aged 83, said: "We've always worked well together and having a family just knit us even tighter together." Mrs Moss, a mother-of-two aged 81, who used to work at The Valeting Service in Cradley Heath, said: "We've always both had a similar, good, sense of humour."

NEWS

in brief

Museum appeal for war artefacts

A MUSEUM is appealing for people to loan First World War artefacts as part of a four-year exhibition.

Dudley Museum wants to show the impact of the war on local communities, and is particularly interested in pictures, clothing, souvenirs and stories of people from the area who experienced the conflict.

Staff want to host an exhibition from August 2014 until November 2018, echoing the timescale.

To get involved or for further details contact Adrian Durkin on 01384 815573.

Students handed £1,000 assistance

FOUR students have received a £1,000 scholarship from the University of Worcester to assist them with their course.

Halesowen College students Gail Nicholls, Jenny Moore, Emily Williams and Emma Hardman are all studying a foundation degree in early years.

The scholarship was given to the four for their high achievement on the course.

Graduates show

UNIVERSITY of Wolverhampton graduates will show their work at the Public Art Gallery, New Street, West Bromwich, from October 13 to 20. The show is open 10am to 4.30pm on Mondays to Saturdays and 11am to 3pm on Sundays.

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NEWS



HOW our times are changing. According to a major toy retailer, this year's must-have is a talking doll based on the Disney cartoon show Sofia The First.

Apparently, this is the story of a seven-year-old girl who has to adapt to life as a princess after her mother marries King Roland.

Time was when little girls dreamt of marrying a handsome prince. Now, if the modern fairy-tales are anything to go by, they let their single mothers do it for them.

■■■■■■■

BIRMINGHAM is officially the youngest city in Europe, with under-25s accounting for almost 40 per cent of the population, proudly declares the funky-monkey, too-cool-for-school youth charity Envision.

Or, to put it another way, Brummies don't live very long.

■■■■■■■

SO that's the end of the party conference season for another year. We now know that the Tories are in favour of 'hard-working families', that Labour thinks it's a good idea to get young people into work, and that the Liberal Democrats... sorry, I lost you there for a moment, didn't I?

One of these days somebody will stand up at one of these conferences and really put their neck on the line, declaring unequivocal support for people who can't be bothered to get up in the morning, and saying they think youth unemployment is a really good idea. But I guess until then, we will just have to resign ourselves to the fact that our politicians can only speak in platitudes.

But the one striking thing about this year's conference season is how short the conferences have become.

As recently as the 1990s, the party conferences ran from Sunday to Friday, then more recently they started knocking off on Thursday. This year they were all done-and-dusted by Wednesday.

Why is this? Have they run out of things to say? Or, in this age of environmental awareness, have they decided that they had better keep an eye on the amount of hot air they produce?

Of course we shouldn't complain. I doubt if there are that many people around the country who look at their television listings and think, 'you know what, I would really like to hear a bit more from Harriet Harman'.

But wouldn't you think, given that our politicians are all supposed to be big on 'hard-working families', that they could at least stretch it until the end of the week?



A Chapman's advertisement for a Turkish Bath



The tobacconist shop that later became Chapmans Electrical



An old advert for Dynatron record players

A bright idea to find the oldest appliance

LOUISE JEW meets a man who is hoping to preserve the past of electrical goods which are part of his firm's history

IT WAS A SHOCKING FEELING WHEN Robert Chapman realised that a workman had tossed a curious bendy-shaped piece of metal, about 18 inches long, into a skip, which had been carted away never to be seen again.

The original use of that object was even more terrifyingly unbelievable – it was a 1920s electrical element that people would actually have dangled on a thick piece of cable, attached to the mains, straight into a tin bath to heat up the water.

But the loss of such a fascinating piece of domestic history at Chapmans Electrical in Cradley Heath – as well as vacuum cleaners from the 1920s – during a refit some years ago, was never to be repeated.

Displaying

So, as the 87-year-old company founded by Robert's father, Ewart, goes through its current £120,000 showroom revamp, everyone is under orders to preserve the old appliances hidden around in cupboards and corners of store rooms at all costs.

And there are lots of them – 50 or more, some of which are now at Robert's home in Bobbington, near Stourbridge, for safe keeping.

Then 67-year-old Robert had a light bulb moment.

As well as displaying some of the antique goods, including post war radios and TVs, when the refurbishment is completed, why not start the hunt for the



Sound and vision blast from the past – Robert Chapman and some of the collection of old electrical appliances at his shop in Cradley Heath

oldest working domestic electrical appliance in the Black Country?

And Chapmans is offering as a prize the latest equivalent model for free – whether it is an electrical hand mixer, hairdryer, fridge, freezer, cooker, cleaner, TV or radio.

"In a nod to our near 90 years in the business we thought it would be fun to find the oldest working electrical appliance," said Robert, managing director of the company, based in Reddall Hill Road.

"Although we have customers all over the country we are very much part of the local community and so we're searching for the oldest appliance in the Black Country."

"It just has to be electrical and still in use." Electricity runs in the veins of Robert, his older brother Arthur, aged 75, and sister Mary Green, 70, all of whom followed their father into the family business.

They were brought up in a house in Reddall Hill Road, which the Chapmans showroom later spread into.

Arthur worked for their father, Mary is now the company secretary and Robert started there as a trainee TV and electronics engineer in 1962.

Ewart Chapman first opened his store, in partnership with Tim Coley, in 'Mr Marsh' the tobacconist's old shop and the business, then called A E Chapman & Co, later sprawled into the neighbouring Victorian pub, the Travellers Rest.

Samples

Ewart had been a keen artist but, after hearing nothing when he sent samples of his work to a top London art school, his father, Arthur, told him: "Electrics is the thing of the future."

So Ewart became an electrical apprentice at Holt Williams in Cradley Heath, progressing on to Hingley's, the



Ewart Chapman, who was the founder of Chapmans Electrical Store

Netherton company that made the anchor for the ill-fated Titanic liner.

Over the years, the business has had to 'reinvent' itself time and again as new electrical inventions came to the fore. Mary, who lives in Wall Heath, said: "It's gone through gas lights to electricity, then through radios and accumulators through the war and then to lighting and at one point we even sold Capo di Monte figures."

But the business, which now employs 45 people, never forgets its roots.

"We offer a repair service and some of the team here actually work on fairly old vacuum cleaners and washing machines, and one is lovingly keeping an ancient video recorder going," said Robert.

"I'm fascinated by old appliances – but too many of them have gone to landfill over the years."

● Do you have an appliance that could be the oldest in the Black Country? Call 01384 566497

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

NEIL Kinnock was announced as the Labour Party's new leader, succeeding Michael Foot. The 41-year-old was the youngest Labour leader since Ramsay McDonald. Roy Hattersley, who had been a rival for the leadership, was elected as his deputy.

RETIRED research scientist Cyril Knight won a reduction on his rates – by playing bingo. The 68-year-old was challenging the rateable value of his property in Codsall, which was calculated by how much it was expected to fetch in rent. "I didn't know how much reduction to go for, so I drew out a bingo number and came up with the figure of £25, which they agreed," he said.

LARRY Grayson was heading to ITV to present a new game show. He was following in the footsteps of his Generation Game predecessor Bruce Forsyth, who had quit the show to move to ITV.

1993...

HOME Secretary Michael Howard announced 27 new measures in one of the toughest crackdowns on crime in modern times. His proposals included ending a suspect's right to silence, creating a national system of genetic fingerprinting for all crimes, and building six new prisons.

GEORGE Cole was hanging up his camel-hair coat after 14 years playing lovable rogue Arthur Daley in the hit series Minder.

D-DAY hero John Howard walked along Pegasus Bridge in Normandy for the last time before it was dismantled so the canal could be widened. Major Howard won the DSO for his part in the assault in which he, along with 180 other soldiers, captured the bridge across the Orne Canal during the Second World War.

2003...

POSTAL workers walked out of Wolverhampton's sorting centre in protest against plans to open another mail operation in the city to ease the Christmas workload. Staff feared overtime working hours would be cut. The men returned to work after an hour following talks.

BODY panels for the world-famous black taxis would be made in the Midlands, it was revealed. Wednesfield-based Automotive Service Centre won the contract to make the panels, securing 450 jobs.

RIO Ferdinand was dropped from the England squad after failing to turn up for a drug test. The Football Association decided to drop the Manchester United defender for the weekend's crucial Euro 2004 qualifier against Turkey. Ferdinand, said he had never taken drugs.

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LETTERS**Find an alternative to deal with waste**

IN response to Peter Thompson's sadness at the recent NIMBY/Dudley Council block on plans to build a recycling centre and energy regeneration unit in Brierley Hill, I am in agreement with some, but not all of his remarks.

It makes sense to find other ways to deal with our waste rather than continue to use landfill which is a finite resource.

However, this needs to be achieved without the consequence of regeneration and recycling plants blighting local sites which would be the case if Clean Power were allowed to proceed. The construction of housing on this brown-

field site has been halted because the builder realised the apartments and flats on the old Royal Brierley Crystal site will not sell until issues relating to waste control have been determined.

The area around Moor Street and North Street has been developed from outdated factory units to modern housing and surely it must be sensible to use existing brownfield sites where possible instead of invading green belt areas.

If he had attended the planning development meeting he would have gleaned more information than was available via limited press space.

The area is still recovering from the closure of Brian Hill Skip Hire and RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) from which site the waste mountain has still not been cleared and the owner recently received a suspended jail term for several breaches of court orders.

Brierley Hill is not a dumping ground for the area's waste.

Perhaps Mr Thompson would like to visit the area and arrange for the recycling plant to be located in his back yard

Jeff Clarke
Carder Drive,
Brierley Hill

Slap fines on those spitting

AT LONG last a council have seen sense and made spitting in the street illegal.

Waltham Forest council, East London have taken two people to court for this disgusting habit.

Two spitters were ordered to pay £600 each. I hope other councils will now follow suit. This, like phoning while driving and dog fouling will be hard to police, but fine a few £600, and perhaps the message will get through. It may be coincidence, but TB is now back since this dirty habit has become common.

I have noticed that school girls are one of the biggest offenders, probably to show equality with the boys.

NORMAN D CADDICK
Upper Ettingshall Road
Coseley

It's hard to bear-d

WHY do so many men, of all ages, favour growth of hair from the mouth down to their necks. Even Jeremy Paxman has grey 'fungus' and in my opinion it has put 20 years on him. Many are like a lot of sheep following this foolish trend.

L SHELDON
Dudley

LETTERS to the Editor**POST**

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Blood boils due to delays when giving

RE: ROB Edwards' letter on the wait experienced when attending blood donor sessions, unfortunately the delays he experienced do not apply to walk in donors only.

As I work full time I used to make use of the appointment service offered by the Blood Transfusion Service although this was a pointless exercise as appointments regularly ran 30 to 40 minutes late. After complaining about the wait, the staff were most apologetic and explained the reason was the "powers that be" book beds to 110 per cent capacity, so it's hardly rocket science to understand the queues by 6pm if everyone has turned up for their appointments.

I contacted the regional office regarding the delays experienced at the Stourbridge sessions and again they were most apologetic and also said others had complained about the delays but he was powerless to improve the situation.

As a donor of more than 30 years and having made the equivalent of 100+ donations I think it's a disgrace the BTS think it acceptable to treat donors with scant disregard.

It was with much regret that I removed my name from the donor register. I am amazed the BTS is still advertising for more donors – perhaps it should concentrate on looking after its existing donors before disillusioning new ones.

PAUL OAKLEY, Kingswinford

Politicians to blame for strike action

I REALISE the teaching strike inconveniences many parents and youngsters.

It's a shame it had to take place, but I, and I'm sure many others, understand such action is not taken lightly. Indeed, no teacher would want to disrupt the education of pupils.

The fault for such damage in schools lies fairly and squarely on the little shoulders of Michael Gove.

The Education Secretary is out to worsen teachers' pay and conditions and dismantle national pay bargaining. He wants to alter pensions to the detriment of teachers and wants them to work longer!

Meanwhile, MPs look to increase their salary by 11 per cent and their pension is bountiful.

In a cabinet in which 23 of the 29 are millionaires – according to The Daily Mail's in May – the stench of hypocrisy is at times overwhelming.

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NEWS

Herbie rides again at park car show



Mark Winterbottom from Bushbury with his 1972 Herbie replica VW at the show in Baggeridge Country Park

CAR enthusiasts came from near and far to show off their classic vehicles at a show at Baggeridge Country Park.

From Volkswagen camper vans to Ford Capris, around 80 cars were on display at the park's Classic Car Show recently.

The show, in its 10th year, saw the vehicles lined up on the park's car park, while visitors browsed them and spoke to the owners.

The event helped the park attract more than 1,500 people.

Organiser Dave Daly, who also runs the Baggeridge Tea Rooms, said: "It was fantastic this year, we had the weather on our side, which saw many more people turn out for it."

"We hold the event not just for car enthusiasts to show off their cars but

to make people aware of the park. It's easy to forget you are in the Black Country when you are standing in the 160 acres of beautiful parkland here."

Among the exhibitors was Vaughan Horden, who displayed his 1968 Mini, built in Cowley, Oxfordshire.

The decorator purchased the car when he was 19 – and has kept it ever since after predicting the vehicle would one day be a classic.

Mr Horden, aged 49, of Rangeways Road, Stourbridge, said: "When they started to say they were going to stop making the cars, I decided to keep mine."

"It was bought because it was cheap and economical, but I never thought I'd be showing it off at classic car shows 30 years later." He added: "It's a great

car because it's so light it is extremely quick and handles really well.

"I don't drive it much anymore, but enjoy taking it to shows like this."

Colin Dulson also drove his Volkswagen Camper Van to the event. The van was made in 1962 and is a split windscreen model. The model ceased being made in 1967.

The motor shop worker, 66, from Dudley, said: "I don't really know what it is I like about the cars – it just gets in your blood."

He added: "I go regularly to the park with my grand-daughter, so after hearing about the show I decided to take along the van."

"It's a friendly show which everyone seems to enjoy."

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NEWS

Experts praise town history scheme

A MULTI-MILLION pound project to renovate historic buildings and boost trade has been praised by experts during a fact-finding tour.

Delegates from the Royal Town Planning Institute visited Dudley town centre last week to look at work being carried out under the Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Completed projects under the scheme include the Crown Pub,

Wolverhampton Street, Baylies Hall, Tower Street, and buildings in High Street and Stone Street.

The delegates also heard about plans for Market Place and introducing more homes to the town centre. President of the Royal Town Planning Peter Geraghty said: "I really enjoyed my tour around Dudley to see first hand the enthusiasm and commitment of all the people involved."

The delegates were joined by Dudley Council officers who talked about the achievements of the project and key aims. The project has included external repairs to building, bringing vacant sites back into use and repairs to historic features across the town. Dudley councillor Judy Foster said: "I am delighted our Townscape Heritage Initiative work is receiving national praise."

Teeth are sprouting nicely for youngster

A YOUNG Bornean orang-utan turned into a right little monkey when asked to 'open wide' so zoo keepers could count her teeth.

It ended up taking four keepers at Dudley Zoo to carry out the task – bribing the two-year-old ape, named Sprout, with her favourite grape treats.

Eventually they managed to persuade her to show off her 'pearly whites', and she does so proudly in front of her mother Jazz.

The job in hand was to count her teeth as part of an international research project at the Black Country Zoo. The zoo's upper primates section leader Pat Stevens said: "We were asked to take part in the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquarums (BIAZA) captive orangutan tooth emergence project.

"Unlike dad Jorong, who willingly opens his mouth on command, Sprout wasn't too keen on the idea and had to be bribed.



Sprout the orangutan eventually opens wide to show off her 22 teeth to mother Jazz and visitors and staff at Dudley Zoo

"It was a real team effort to count Sprout's teeth," Pat said.

"It took four keepers, each counting a different section of her mouth at the same time, as well as taking a lot of grapes to coax her."

Sprout has 22 teeth, so has quite a few more to come through until she has the full set of 32, the same as humans, she added.

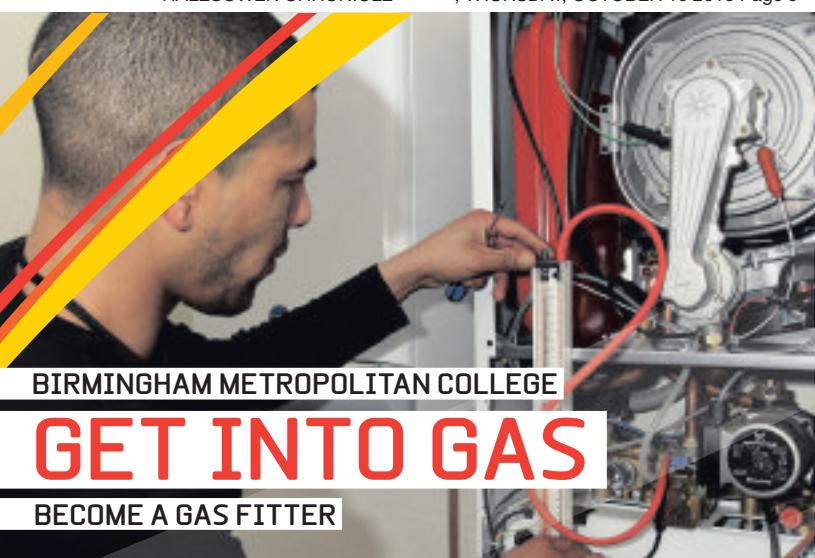
She said: "As soon as we finished counting she opened her mouth as wide as she could – she really can be a cheeky monkey."

Sprout was born at the zoo, based on Castle Hill, two years ago. After birth, the baby orangutan was kept in a quiet private chamber away from the public, until mother Jazz was ready to show her off to visitors.

Before the orangutan was born, her mother stopped eating onions, Dudley Zoo staff noticed.

Staff at the zoo say Sprout has developed well over the past two years, becoming more and more independent.

But she will remain dependent on Jazz until she is at least six.



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October

		Adult	Child	Senior
Sat 5th	Wellesbourne Market & Stratford-upon-Avon (2 seats for £20)	£13	£11	£12
Thur 10th	London Shopping Trip	£15	£15	£15
Tues 15th	Cotswolds - Moreton-in-Marsh Market + Bourton-on-the-Water (2 seats for £20)	£13	£11	£12
Sat 19th	Blackpool Illuminations	£17	£15	£16
Mon 28th	Harry Potter Studio Tour (London) (Half Term)	£55	£45	£55
Wed 30th	Alton Towers Resort 'Scarefest'	£40	£35	£28
Thur 31st	Nifty 50's Mystery Lunch Excursion (Adults Only)	£22		£22

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November

		Adult	Child	Senior
Fri 1st	Blackpool Illuminations	£17	£15	£16
Sat 2nd	Ragley Hall 'Bonfire & Firework Event'	£17	£15	£16
Sun 2nd	Wellesbourne Market + Stratford-upon-Avon (2 seats for £20)	£13	£11	£12
Sun 3rd	Drayton Manor 'Fireworks Spectacular'	£30	£28	£25
Fri 8th	Weston 'Illuminated Carnival'	£18	£16	£17
Wed 13th	The Whitting Inn 'Best of British Show' (Adults Only)	£28		£27
Sun 17th	Trafford Centre (Manchester)	£14	£12	£13
Thur 21st	Cheshire Oaks Designer Factory Outlet	£14	£12	£13
Fri 22nd	Gloucester Victorian Christmas Market	£16	£13	£15
Sat 23rd	Chester Victorian Christmas Market	£16	£13	£15
Tue 26th	Bath (Shopping & Sightseeing)	£15	£13	£14
Thur 28th	Nifty 50's Mystery Lunch Excursion (Adults Only)	£22		£22
Fri 29th	Worcester Victorian Christmas Market Fayre	£14	£12	£13
Sat 30th	Santa Safari (West Midlands Safari Park)	£19	£21	£17

December

		Adult	Child	Senior
Sun 1st	York - St Nicholas Christmas Fayre	£17	£14	£16
Fri 6th	Lincoln Christmas Market	£17	£13	£15
Sat 7th	(Brochure Date incorrect) Cheltenham Christmas Market	£15	£13	£14
Sat 7th	Wellesbourne Market + Stratford-upon-Avon (2 seats for £20)	£13	£11	£12
Sun 8th	Bath Christmas Market	£16	£14	£15
Wed 11th	Matilda (London Theatre) Matinee Show	£69	£69	£69
Wed 11th	London Christmas Shopping	£15	£15	£15
Wed 11th	Les Miserables (London Theatre) Matinee Show	£65	£65	£65
Mon 16th	Mon 16th Torquay , Derwent Hotel £209 Turkey & Tinsel 5 Day's half Board (No Concessions)			

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MEMORY LANE

The Brownies in the 1940s – back left, Brenda Batten, now Moore, with back middle Jean Saunders



1st West Bromwich Brownies seen in the 1960s, Brenda Batten, now Moore, now a leader herself is pictured back left



First Brown Owl, Dorothy Wallett, on the right, is pictured cutting a cake on the 50th anniversary



Stacey Hampson, current Brown Owl, with members from the 1940s, Brenda Moore and Jean Saunders

Brownies celebrate 70 years of 1st West Bromwich pack

THEY sport trendy new uniforms, go on adventurous camping trips and even promise to uphold a modern set of values.

Yet girls from the 1st West Bromwich Brownies group were whisked back in time as they met with members over the ages to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the group.

Memories and photographs are being collected by the group's current leaders to tell the story of the generations of children who have helped to make it a success.

Church

The 1st West Bromwich group meet each week at the Wesley Church, in West Bromwich High Street, where they were formed by Dorothy Wallett in 1943.

Two founding members are among those who can still remember back to learning to sew and how to tie a neckerchief in the midst of the Second World War.

Friends Brenda Moore and Jean Spencer

joined the pack when they were aged around seven led by Miss Wallett, who was also their teacher at Spon Lane School, in West Bromwich.

Mrs Moore, now aged 77, and who originally lived in West Bromwich but now lives in Great Barr, said: "It is lovely to think it has lasted this many years and is still going strong. I can't believe that 70 years have passed since we first joined."

Around 20 girls were part of the group in those days with Miss Wallett as the group's leader, known as Brown Owl. Subs in those days were a penny a week and uniforms were brown dresses with a necker tie which they had to learn to fold.

Mrs Spencer, who has two children and one grand-daughter, said: "We used to meet in the guild room in the old church but we did use the same room that they use today too."

Both spent four years with the Brownies before moving up to the Girl Guides.

Mrs Moore eventually became one of the group's leaders as it stayed after the church was re-built in the 1970s.

"We still have our links and keep in the loop

with everything," added Mrs Moore, who went on to run her own Brownie group at Grove Vale Primary School, in Great Barr.

Mrs Spencer's daughter Sue also ran a group at Charlton Methodist Church.

The two friends are now part of the Trefail guiding guild which meets each month at the church in Charlton and will reach its 60th anniversary next year. Both say they are full of pride as the group is still flourishing under the group's current Brown Owl Stacey Hampson, who lives in the Lapel area of Halesowen and helped organise a gathering of past members recently.

Youngsters now wear bright jumpers and caps, go on regular trips to camps at Beaudesert on Cannock Chase and have recently learned the new modern Brownie promise.

The 31-year-old, who works in an accounting department for a firm in Cannock, hopes her newborn daughter Freya will maybe one day don the uniform too.

Anyone who wants to find out more about the group or former members can call 07929 839900.



Celebrating – Ruth Keeling, aged eight, Jean Saunders, 77, a member in the 1940s, and Emily Randle, nine, with leaders and other members

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NEWS

Firm is hoping to cut it through new investment

A KINGSWINFORD business is planning a six-figure investment on the back of continuing strong demand.

Arford Steel Profiles in Stallings Lane has almost doubled its turnover to £2.5 million since owner and managing director Diane Kimberley took over in 2006.

Now the company is ready to spend £300,000 on a hi-tech plasma cutting machine in a move to further strengthen its portfolio.

Miss Kimberley hopes Arford's biggest-ever investment will help the company steal a march on some of its traditional rivals.

She said: "The arrival of plasma technology will increase our capacity at a stroke and should make us more responsive to our customers."

"People ordering steel profiles increasingly demand the highest quality work carried out to a tight timescale. They want jobs done quickly, but they also want them done more precisely than ever before.

Demands

"The new machine will mean we can meet those demands and I hope it can lead to a bright future for us."

"Our flame cutting CNC machines are accurate to a certain point and we'll keep them on site because Plasma can't cut thicker material."

"But for plate up to 50mm, flame cutting is like using a hammer and chisel compared to this."

"The investment takes us on to the next level and will mean we can provide the complete steel cutting service for our customers."

The arrival of the Plasma Viper machine, sourced from Esprit Automation in Nottingham, will mean a further addition to the company's 13-strong workforce.

It's also likely to have several other



Flame cutting taking place at Arford Steel Profiles factory in Kingswinford

positive implications for the business, which has been at its Stallings Lane site for 20 years.

Miss Kimberley added: "It's a big decision to spend so much on one machine, but it was something we felt needed to be done to take the business forward."

"We've been turning over £2.5m consistently, but there was no potential to increase capacity."

"We had reached a ceiling with the equipment we had and we couldn't do any more. Now we have somewhere to go with it."

"You can't afford to stand still for long in any business and we were

determined not to do that. You have to change, modernise and evolve to stay ahead of the game."

She echoes the views of many business leaders in the Black Country who feel the economy is showing early signs of a potential recovery.

"There's cautious optimism around that things are beginning to change for the better."

"I wouldn't say things seem to be picking up yet, but there are indications that better times could be around the corner. Demand is consistently strong at the moment and I'm trusting that this will bring in more business," she said.

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NEWS**Body-builders trying to muscle in**

Contestants flex their pecs in the body building contest in the hope of winning a place for the Universe title

TOP body-builders flexed their considerable muscles at a contest to out-guess the opposition and win a place competing against the best in the universe.

More than 70 of the country's best muscle men and women descended on Brierley Hill Civic Hall to take part in a range of categories, including juniors and veteran over-50s.

It also provided the chance to win a spot on the platform at the flagship National Amateur Body Builders' Association Universe competition this month.

Hundreds packed into the venue, off Bank Street, for the contest on Sunday, as athletes took part in exercises.

Competitors completed their own

routine of poses for the judges lasting around one minute.

They also had to stand in poses alongside their fellow competitors on stage, which officials say cranks up the tension.

Many continued to work out including using dumbbells until moments before they went on stage.

The dedicated participants are said to often deliberately dehydrate themselves to tighten their skin.

And some are said to eat chocolate just as they start to compete to help give them an energy boost.

Former body-building champion Jim Charles has been involved in running the event for 50 years and is one of the

world's top competition judges for body-building.

The 75-year-old runs Jim's Gym, in Lye, Stourbridge, and has received many awards over the years for his work to promote body building to the next generation of enthusiasts.

Mr Charles, who organises the Brierley Hill event along with his wife Val, said: "The atmosphere was fantastic and it was absolutely rammed which really made it."

"The quality was really high and these are people who are so devoted to what they do."

He added: "It is the last event before the universe competition so all of them are trying so hard to qualify."

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FOCUS ON BLACKHEATH AND ROWLEY REGIS

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Email: tom.mason@expressandstar.co.uk or call 01902 319500**Brides' fear for big day with closure of company**

BRIDES have been left in the lurch for their big day after a wedding decorations company shut down, it has been claimed. Many of the brides who paid in advance to Dudley company A Little Bit of Bling to provide the decor at their receptions, now fear the worst.

Owner Sarah Cawthorne said she had already paid back five brides that she admitted failing to honour bookings for, but denied as many as 170 were being let down as has been alleged by complainants.

She pledged the rest of her orders, which she says are for 102 receptions, would be honoured by Paradise Weddings of Solihull. Many of her customers have banded together on a Facebook page called 'Burned Brides'.

Dudley Trading Standards, which received 14 complaints from customers, said it had worked closely with the firm to arrange refunds.

Newly-wed Tamar Banks, of Rowley Regis, said she had paid £50 deposit to Mrs Cawthorne last year and a balance of £225 in June to book decorations for her reception. But, two weeks before her wedding the Facebook page for A Little Bit of Bling 'went down'.

She spoke to Sarah Cawthorne, who said she had been in hospital but would still provide the decorations. Mrs Cawthorne, of Sedgley, said: "I have had to retire due to ill health on the advice of my doctor."

A MEMORIAL honouring those who lost their lives in the First World War has been re-dedicated after a year of hard work and research.

The memorial at St Giles' Church, Hanover Road, Rowley Regis, has been worked on over the past year to make the inscribed names that were fading legible again.

by Tom Mason

Commission of War Graves website and my father went through the military archives and local newspapers.

"Eventually we managed to track them all down, and we've got certainty on pretty much all of them."

"My father, who has passed away, would have been thrilled. We never envisaged that the memorial would be restored, and we were both delighted to learn the council were going to do this - it's absolutely beautiful."

"We asked for some money from Sandwell Council to do it up, and that's how we were able to restore it to the magnificent cenotaph that's there now."

Partners involved in its restoration included the council, the church, Royal British Legion, St Michael's School and members of the local community.

Richard Warby, who researched the cenotaph with his late father Malcolm, said: "We researched the memorial about 10 years ago because none of the names could be read, and a lady had come to the vicar to ask about a relative.

"We checked with the students

Students

Dignitaries at the ceremony included David Bradnock, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands, and the Mayor of Sandwell Councillor Linda Horton.

Students and pupils from St Michael's and Westminster schools have also been involved with the project from the beginning and read the names of the 98 soldiers recorded on the memorial during the ceremony.

"We checked with the

pair, who are grandparents to one and who live at the pub, have previously run a cafe in Lye for 12 years and a fish and chip shop in Kinver for several years.

But The Knight's Quest was their first pub project when they took it on.

Mr Lloyd, aged 61, said:

"The early days were a bit difficult because the pub was going to be knocked down."

Mr Lloyd said running a pub had always been something he and Jayne, aged 55, wanted to do since they got married 30 years ago, and they had the concept that they wanted to do food in the day, and entertainment in the evenings.



Gerald and Jayne Lloyd, from the Knights Quest pub, Blackheath, celebrate 10 years

Quest to mark 10th milestone

A PUBLICAN couple are raising a glass to celebrate having been in charge of their first pub for a decade.

Gerald and Jayne Lloyd took over The Knight's Quest on Blackheath High Street on October 29, 2003, and to celebrate are running special offers and entertainment this month.

The pair, who are grandparents to one and who live at the pub, have previously run a cafe in Lye for 12 years and a fish and chip shop in Kinver for several years.

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Mr Lloyd, aged 61, said:

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Mr Lloyd said running a pub had always been something he and Jayne, aged 55, wanted to do since they got married 30 years ago, and they had the concept that they wanted to do food in the day, and entertainment in the evenings.

Demand for answers on hospital by MP Morris

THE MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis is calling for answers to problems at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital following a report released under the Freedom of Information Act.

The demand came from MP James Morris after it was revealed, pre-election, the last Government covered up problems at a failing hospital in Essex.

Internal emails from the Care Quality Commission (CQC), released under the Freedom of Information Act show that the previous government told the watchdog to suppress information to the public about failings at Basildon University Hospital. The hospital was investigated earlier this year because of higher than expected mortality rates.

Mr Morris said that he had similar concerns about the NHS Trust that runs Russells Hall Hospital, where mortality-rate indicators rose between 2008 and 2011.

If Labour ministers were putting pressure on the health watchdog to suppress a damning official report into this hospital then people are bound to ask whether the last Government also ignored and covered up concerns about rising mortality rates at Russells Hall," said Mr Morris.

"We can be very proud of our NHS, but when there are problems, they must be dealt with as they have been by this Government."

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Meat butcher who offers a cut above



Manager Marc Gough with crocodile, zebra, bison, buffalo and kangaroo meat at his butcher's shop, Stourport

A BUTCHER is offering customers meat with a bite – with crocodile as well as kangaroo, zebra, wildebeest, emu, springbok, camel and wagyu beef on the menu.

Laurence Gough, aged 56, who runs the butcher's shop in High Street, Stourport, with son, Marc, aged 30, has customers arriving from Birmingham, the Black Country and even from Bristol to buy the alternative meat cuts on offer.

He has also supplied a couple of top restaurants in London, including one at Notting Hill, as well as hotels and pubs locally. Laurence has run the shop for more than 26 years and has been offering customers unusual meats such as ostrich, kangaroo and buffalo for about 20 years.

Since the demand for low cholesterol food has increased so too has the exotic palate of customers, many of whom want to try different meat.

Laurence said: "Often these meats offer more protein than fish or chicken and turkey for people who go to the gym for workouts. They find these meats offer a varied diet from just the usual tuna and other fish. Many people just want to try it as a novelty and then find they like the taste."

Futuristic aspects are jettisoned from plans

A PLANNED multi-million pound revamp of a college entrance is set to be given the green light after bosses removed 'futuristic' aspects for the new building extension's design.

The proposed roof top over the new entrance to the Hagley Road Campus of Birmingham Metropolitan College, Stourbridge included a diagonal overhanging visor, attracting opposition from English Heritage, which said the design did not suit the area.

Bosses at the campus, formerly known as Stourbridge College, then amended the plan to show a rectangular rooftop. The move resulted in the objection being withdrawn.

Last week, planning officers at Dudley Council recommended the planning application be approved by councillors on the development control committee.

Modern

The development is part of a wider £20m transformation for the college over the next 10 years. Margaret Scott, chairman of the Stourbridge Town Council, welcomed the change in design.

She said: "Parts of the last design were too futuristic for an old part of the town – it didn't complement Old Swinford Hospital school. The new design is modern, but not over the top."

In a letter to the council, English Heritage had said: "The amended plans satisfactorily address all the English Heritage concerns and create a more dignified and coherent street frontage."

Call centre company in search for 80 workers

A NEWLY-launched call centre company in the Black Country is looking to recruit 80 people by the end of this year – with an extra 130 new workers wanted for next year.

Neo Strategies was set up following a request by Sussex-based firm Chilly Warranty Shop, which repairs electrical appliances, to open a call centre in the West Midlands.

The new company is based in Link House in Birmingham Street in Halesowen.

Despite already employing 70 staff, company manager Janice Ainsworth said she was on the lookout for 80 more.

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When Capital Financial Management, the established Debt Advisory Service in Halesowen, learned of the number of unscrupulous claims management companies misrepresenting consumers entitlements to reclaim Payment Protection Insurance they decided to do something about it. Simon Bancroft, Company Director and non-practising barrister said; "We have been advising local residents in respect of Debt Problems for a number of years. Many of our clients were persuaded to take out PPI when applying for loans and credit cards and were often told that they would not be granted the facility unless they took

out PPI. In many cases consumers are not even aware that PPI was added to their loans. Unfortunately however, many companies have set up on the back of the mis-selling scandal some of which have adopted the approach of cold calling and making false representations".

Often recorded messages are played to consumers promising to process their refund or that they are entitled to £3000.00 compensation. These representations are made without any substance whatsoever. It is in fact a criminal offence for companies to make such calls and anyone receiving such a call should immediately hang up. Simon continued; "If anyone is unsure whether they had PPI or have not yet reclaimed it is imperative to get professional face to face advice."

Capital Financial Management operate on a no win no fee basis and do not ask their PPI clients to pay anything up front. As one happy client stated; "I am delighted. 70% of £16,000 was much better than 100% of nothing!" another said "CFM reduced all of my loan and credit card payments by 80% three years ago. This saved me over

£650.00 a month. To now get a lump sum of £4800.00 is fantastic."

Capital Financial Management make no secret of the fact that it is possible for consumers to reclaim themselves. However, as the company point out, in addition to reclaiming the PPI premiums it is important to ask for compound interest and statutory simple interest. Some consumers will simply not have the time or inclination to deal with this and those that do will often give up when the banks final response is 'No'. CFM will rigorously pursue the matter with the Financial Ombudsman Service and on occasions have been able to substantially increase the



amount which otherwise may have been accepted.

It is important to note that there are deadlines and those who think they may have a claim should act now. "It is incorrect to say that consumers have only 6 years to claim. We have many clients who have claimed for loans sold in the 1990's. However now that the issue is within the public knowledge time limits will apply".

If you, a friend or colleague have not yet claimed for the refund to which you are entitled or you are experiencing debt problems, you are urged to contact Simon and the team on 0121 585 5810.





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NEWS

Father jailed for robbing younger man in toilets

Banking on helping families



From left, student Jessica Sutton, student governor Darryl Garland, Refresh volunteer Sadie Holness, student union president Kelly Russell, and Hannah Brindley with some of the food which has been donated

COLLEGE students have donated food to a foodbank which helps people struggling to make ends meet.

Youngsters from Dudley College have been collecting goods for the Black Country Foodbank for the past month.

The first donations have now been handed in to the bank's collection centre at Refresh, The Broadway,

Dudley. The college's students union decided to collect for the foodbank following a recent visit. Students were surprised to see how many residents were making use of the bank.

It is also a cause very close to home as some students and their families have had to use the bank in the past.

They plan to continue collecting for the charity and to gather enough food to help 100 local families.

A FATHER of four targeted a younger man in a bar, waiting until they were alone in the toilet before robbing him of £20, a court heard.

Stefan Dudley pushed his much younger victim into a toilet cubicle in the River Rooms, Mill Race Lane, near Stourbridge town centre.

The 42-year-old was sentenced to three years in prison for the robbery.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard Dudley had followed his victim into the toilet twice before during the same night, on September 18 last year.

Shortly after midnight the victim - who was a 'slightly built young man' - was at the sink when Dudley walked over to him.

When Dudley found they were alone he grabbed the man's mobile phone and then grabbed him round the neck, the court was told.

The victim was then pushed inside a toilet cubicle and Dudley demanded his wallet. Dudley stole £20 but when challenged outside he denied it and threatened to kill his victim if he repeated the claim.

Alcohol

After being arrested Dudley pleaded not guilty to robbery but was later found guilty after a trial.

Mr Michael Aspinall, defending, said alcohol and drugs had affected him.

Mr Aspinall said: "No injury was caused to the victim and no weapon was produced."

"It was an opportunistic offence. He has a long record of offending but nothing of this seriousness."

"This is an escalation for him. It is not part of his offending history. When he is sober and not on drugs he can be productive and a good father."

Dudley, of High Street, Lye, was jailed for three years. The judge, Recorder Barry Berlin, told him: "I am satisfied if he hadn't taken his wallet out you would have seriously assaulted him. You threatened to kill him."

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Infectious laughter, happy moments and enjoying 'me' time – meet denture implant couple John and Gillian.

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Transformations



Steven Burchell
Dip CDT RCS (Eng)
(GDC10835)

LOVE is a second chance of romance, embracing life and sharing smiles – lots of them. For retired couple Gillian and John, sharing time together, enjoying holidays, meals out and trips to the theatre, life has opened an unexpected new chapter of happiness after they both lost their partners.

Their laughter is infectious and their zest for life inspirational. The widow and widower, both young 70-somethings, met at a mutual friend's golden wedding party and the rest, as they say, is history.

But John didn't only discover a new soul mate, he also found a new patient for denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng).

Principal of the Denture Clinic in North Street, Dudley, Steven says: "They're such refreshing company and I am thrilled they are so happy together.

"But I'm also pleased we were able to resolve a long-standing lower denture

problem for Gillian as well as create a lovely warm smile for her that suits her personality."

John recalls he was first to attend the Denture Clinic after spending nearly four years "perusing stories in the papers" about Steven's work.

Like many denture wearers he had encountered stabilisation problems with his lower denture as gums receded with the normal ageing process. "I knew I had to get something done because when I was driving my lower teeth could dance up and down," says John.

Crunchy salads

Steven referred him to dental implantologist Jon Pugh BDS MSc, with whom the denturist has along-standing professional relationship.

"I decided to go for an implant-retained overdenture which clips on to two fixings. I would never let anything stop me from enjoying a meal out before I had the implants, but things are great now. I can have steak, eat crunchy salads and feel

free to have anything off the menu," he says.

Gillian had endured a similar stabilisation problem for two years and was persuaded by John to see Steven because her dentures "were always loose."

Again an implant-retained over-denture was prescribed and Mr Pugh also rebuilt Gillian's upper front teeth with crowns. The results are obvious: Natural looking, functional teeth and an engaging smile.

"Previous dental treatment could never resolve my problems. If I ate out I'd have to order soft options, but I put up with it," says Gillian.

"We laugh a lot, smile a lot and enjoy life. This is my 'me' time," she adds.

And what of their experience at the Denture Clinic? "Steven is like family to us," says John.

Steven added: "By using implant retained overdentures we can guarantee to resolve stability issues. We prescribe and produce our dentures on the premises and it means I can be fastidious about quality."

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Christmas at Althorp

Two days departing December 14



PRICE FROM £149

ENJOY the festive celebrations and hospitality at Althorp, the childhood home of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, on this pre-Christmas break.

Each year the house is dressed for a traditional family Christmas and opens its doors exclusively for groups to experience the wonderful atmosphere.

On arrival the resident pianist will be playing festive favourites on the grand piano in the Saloon. This is followed by a free flow tour of the 18 staterooms in the House with knowledgeable guides on hand to bring to life the anecdotes of the Spencer history at Althorp.

In the State Dining Room an extravagant afternoon tea will be served including a feast of seasonal goodies of dainty hand-cut sandwiches, home-made Christmas themed cakes, freshly baked orange and cranberry scones served with clotted cream and jam as well as unlimited tea and coffee accompanied by a glass of champagne.

A visit to Stratford-upon-Avon is also on the itinerary with its many attractions linked to William Shakespeare, one of which is the tower of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre with a viewing platform 36 metres above the river. Another way to see the sights is from aboard one of the sightseeing open air buses (entrance fees payable locally) and for shoppers the town has many independent shops to browse around.

INFO

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Althorp House
- Refreshments in the State Dining Room
- Visit to Stratford-upon-Avon
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Pick
of the
week

Bath Christmas Markets

Grassington Dickensian Festival

Two days departing December 7

PRICE FROM £95

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- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Bath Christmas market
- Visit to the McArthurGlen shopping outlet near Swindon
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Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Two days departing December 7

PRICE FROM £109.95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to Grassington Dickensian markets
- Visit to Manchester Christmas markets
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Carols by Candlelight

at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing December 14

PRICE FROM £129

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Choir seat for the concert (upgrades offered)
- Short panoramic London sightseeing tour
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Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Two days departing November 15

PRICE FROM £149.95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Admission to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- Free time in Cambridge
- Services of a coach driver/tour representative
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)

Classical Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall

Two days departing March 23

PRICE FROM £125

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Choir seat for the concert (upgrades offered)
- Short panoramic London sightseeing tour
- Free time in London
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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London by Rail

Three days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £159.95

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- Two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Choice of London hotels
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Short Breaks (ABTA Y5914)

André Rieu and the Johann Strauss Orchestra

Two days departing December 22

PRICE FROM £179

- Return coach travel
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation
- Seated ticket (face value £40) for the André Rieu concert at the Echo Arena Liverpool (upgrades offered)
- Return coach transfers between the hotel and concert venue
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Promotions (ABTA V787X)

York St Nicholas Fayre

Two days departing November 30

PRICE FROM £99.95

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Visit to York St Nicholas Fayre
- Visit to Haworth
- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Eight days various departure dates 2014

PRICE FROM £769

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- Seven nights half-board accommodation
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- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

Prague

Four days various departure dates 2014

PRICE FROM £379

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided tour of medieval Prague
- Guided tour of Prague's castle district
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Seven days various departure dates 2014

PRICE FROM £679

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- Guided tours in Tarragona and Barcelona
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- Visit to a Cava vineyard with tasting
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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NEWS

Programme to get more from great outdoors

PEOPLE who want to exercise in the great outdoors are set to benefit from a new programme of activities.

A booklet detailing free activities including walking and outdoor exercise, taking place in Dudley's parks, nature reserves and green spaces across from next month to March 2014 has been published. Qualified park rangers and exercise instructors lead the activities on offer, which range from Halloween and Christmas activities for families to exercise programmes for the over 50s.

Weekly and monthly walks from popular beauty spots across the borough feature in the booklet as well as pub walks and lap walking for beginners.

People who are already active can also take part in more intensive outdoor fitness sessions with Functional Fitness classes available. To view the full programme visit www.dudley.gov.uk/greenspacesforhealth.

Wolves fans come all the way from Oz



Loyal Wolves fans Alex, Emilie, Rita and Sid Thompson



The Thompsons' clippings from 1972 and 2005

WOLVES fans have received plaudits this season for their loyal away following – but the Thompson family deserve recognition of their own.

Four members of their clan were at Molineux having travelled more than 10, 500 miles from Sydney, Australia, to watch Kenny Jackett's men overcome Sheffield United 2-0. Sid Thompson, aged 63, who left Wombourne for a life Down Under as a teenager, never forgot his roots and gave his son, Alex the middle name of Dougan after the late, great Derek.

His grandson, Hunter has the middle name Wright after legendary former England captain Billy.

Sid brought Alex, aged 37, to the game with Alex's partner, Emily, 34, and mother, Rita, 67. Sid's other son, Matthew was just 14 months old when they came over in the 1970s. The last game attended by Alex, who is a fitter welder, was the 2-1 play-off semi-final victory against Reading in 2003.

In 2005, Matthew brought a then 15-month-old Hunter to watch a 1-1 draw against Derby County.

Alex also met one of his childhood heroes, Steve Bull, at the game.

Have-a-go hero sees off an armed robber

A HAVE-A-GO hero dad failed a hooded armed robber who attacked a woman motorist who was in her sports car – wrestling him to the ground twice and forcing him to drop cash he had just stolen.

Police have praised the man for putting the robber to flight after stepping in despite having his own children in the back of his car.

Passersby watched in horror as two men – one armed with a knife – opened the door of a 56-year-old woman's red Porsche Boxster car outside the Post Office at the junction of Hungry Hill and Junction Road, Stourbridge, on September 28.

A passing motorist raced to the woman's aid, pulled one of the two men out of the Porsche and scuffled with him before he fled.

Police have arrested a 31-year-old man from Wordsley on suspicion of being involved in the robbery.

Phone robbers jailed after threats made to shop staff

THREE men who threatened terrified staff before stealing phones worth nearly £5,000 during a raid on a store have been jailed.

Leonard Olagbaju, Samir Barlow and Kye Warner went into the O2 shop in Kidderminster High Street on March 20 and tore display models from their stands.

Worcester Crown Court heard the men had aggressively warned staff to keep their distance before fleeing the store carrying 16 phones, worth £4,940. Their haul included expensive models worth up to £500 each.

The court heard members of the public saw

them getting into a car. They were arrested on the A456 in Hagley. All three admitted a charge of robbery.

Olagbaju, aged 21, of Hayes, and Warner, 22, of Uxbridge, both Middlesex, were both jailed for 30 months. Barlow, 22, also of Hayes, was sentenced to 27 months.

Fear

The court was told all three had several previous convictions for similar offences.

There were three members of staff and several customers in the store at the time.

In a statement to police, one assistant said she had not tried to stop the men for fear of what might happen.

She described herself as being 'shaken and upset and had not been able to sleep'.

Another said she had been serving customers and had heard her colleague scream.

She said after the first two men ran out of the shop the third continued to grab handsets 'like a child in a sweet shop'.

Dc Mark Wilding of West Mercia Police said: "This was a terrifying incident for staff. Although the men were not armed, they were extremely aggressive."

"The staff were left in no doubt that they would be harmed if they tried to stop them. Thanks to members of the public, who saw the three men carrying the phones to their car, we quickly located the vehicle."

Showcase for courses
A BLACK COUNTRY university is offering free taster sessions to pupils to showcase the courses it has on offer.

The University of Wolverhampton is hosting a series of classes which demonstrate the content of many of its courses.

The sessions are aimed at people of all ages, from primary and secondary pupils to college students, and include subjects such as law, uniformed services, deaf studies, social sciences and more.

The sessions will take place at the university, starting from this month and running until April.

Visit www.wlv.ac.uk/lss/c/tasterworkshops.

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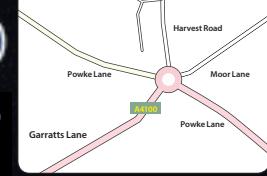
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REVIEWS

Still no sign of retiring at the age of 71

Andy Irvine, Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton

FOLK and Irish music legend Andy Irvine came to Wolverhampton before his next gig later this month as part of the LAPD tour in Sligo, Ireland, namely (L)iam O'Flynn, (A)ndy Irvine, (P)addy Glackin and (D)onal Lunney.

Irvine, now aged 71, shows no signs

of retiring – great for those who enjoy his gentle and lyrical style of telling stories through his songs.

From the opening Creggan White Hare, Andy showed why he is a master of his craft when it comes to mandolin, guitar, mandola and harmonica.

Anyone not mesmerised by his hand movements would be brought under

his spell by the gentle and mellow sound he creates.

One of the highlights of the night was O'Donoghue's, which not surprisingly is a pub in Dublin.

Irvine is at his best when he sings but his gentle and self-effacing humour also comes across.

Danny Farragher

Play that's lost its fizz

Fallen Angels, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

NOEL Coward's Fallen Angels was considered risqué, even shocking, when first staged in 1925. Now it just seems frightfully passé.

Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe played wealthy friends who become rivals when a former lover returns to the scene and they contemplate cheating on their husbands. But their plans go awry as a result of indulging in too much Champagne.

The interminable drunk scene allowed the two leads to indulge in slapstick though they were both funnier when trading insults, examples of Coward's brittle bated wit spiced with spite.

However, Fallen Angels has lost much of its fizz and it is hard to feel empathy with two bored, rich and self-absorbed matrons.

Leon Burakowski

Packed crowd left Starry Eyed by Ellie



Ellie Goulding at the Civic Hall

Ellie Goulding, Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

IT seems artists these days know they've really made it when they collaborate with Calvin Harris. Ellie Goulding has done that, had a first number one, toured with Bruno Mars and even mastered that difficult second album, so is riding on the crest of a wave.

And, from the opening Figure 8, there was only one way this concert was going.

She invited the massed ranks to get up and dance during Anything Could Happen, and they didn't disappoint, while she didn't need the help of any Scottish DJ on I Need Your Love. In a performance that was worth the admission alone, she had the crowd and her backing band readily on hand to play and sing along.

And, while she certainly knows how to deliver a pop tune, an acoustic version of Guns and Horses showed a more folky edge.

After ending the main set with Lights, Goulding returned with You My Everything before ensuring she didn't go out on a whimper with Burn.

Mark Shipp

Mel C adds Spice to Mary Magdalene role

Jesus Christ Superstar, NIA, Birmingham

THIS is Jesus Christ Superstar but not as you know it. Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's rock opera has been brought up to date and the packed NIA at Birmingham just loved it.

Forget the 70s, this has Jesus mixing with dreadlocked anarchists, frightening

the life out of Roman bankers and spreading the Gospel via Twitter.

Ben Forster, who won the role as Jesus on ITV's Superstar, proves there is life beyond Radio 1.

Tim Minchin dominated as Judas Iscariot.

What may initially have seemed a bit of an oddball-collection of casting turned out to be a bit of genius.

Sue Attwater

relaxed Mary Magdalene, while Chris Moyles as King Herod proved there is life beyond Radio 1.

What may initially have seemed a bit of an oddball-collection of casting turned out to be a bit of genius.

Sue Attwater

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SUSIE seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 407321

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407787

GORGEOUS black attractive female, N/S, seeks genuine caring white male, 40-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405887

CLAIRE 18 single with OHAC looking for mature relationship with male 40-50yrs to partner me and show me a really good time. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407483

LINN young looking divorced female, attractive, honest, caring and reliable looking to meet similar N/S animal loving male to enjoy happy times, tlc, hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407473

CARLY, 25yrs, and v naughty seeks man for discreet fun. My job includes trael so anywhere is fine for me. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box 350727

SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407693

NICOLA 32y old slim sexy single mum looking for fun times maybe more with similar open-minded uncomplicated companion. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407941

LISA 37y old very attractive, sporty blonde blue eyed outgoing female looking for genuine male to spend time with, get to know and take it from there, no pressure. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407621

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

HII am Mary 30yrs, small build, horsey and love farming, seeking an honest male 50plus who also likes country pursuits, GSOH essential, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407607

SALLY hurt single mom 27 looking to restore her faith in men, looking for sincere, loyal, trustworthy male, 37-57yrs for friendship, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407497

BARBARA 36 slim blonde likes music, sport, the outdoors, quiet nights in etc. WLTM kind honest gent willing to expand and share interests and get to know me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407465

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wine/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great Summer with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765

SINGLE female, 43, seeks kind, considerate male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406449

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HONEST beautiful black female, N/S, seeks honest, caring, white man, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405395

SARAH 24, brunette, brown eyes, attractive, slim, smart, seeks male with GSOH, 30's in Kidderminster area for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406139

LARGE female, seeking male for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406027

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays, seeking female, 65-72 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405985

5FT 10ins slim brunette female with GSOH. Down to earth, fun and quirky, looking for similar male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403991

ARE you my Knight in shining armour? Young 65yr old female, smoker, seeks genuine guy, 55-60 who is slim in Walsall area for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376742

ANNE 57, nurse, 5ft 4ins, likes swimming, cooking, countryside, looking for friendship and company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405645

SICK of being stuck on the shelf, Jenny attractive female seeks N/S caring male 42-55 who feels the same to share adult companionship, meals in/out, possibly LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405277

46YR old black British female, 5ft 4ins, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404987

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447

FEMALE 41, 5ft 7ins, seeks male for nights in/out, romance and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397361

BECCA 5ft 9ins, curly, good job, seeking black/mixed race male, 35-45, 6ft plus. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397681

SARAH slim, honest, caring, attractive looking for that special guy to spend special times with, looks unimportant, similar lonely hearts need only apply. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407507

SALLY neglected 27yr old single female looking for genuine guy to help mend my broken heart and enjoy lots of adult fun times along the way. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407499

LOVING caring young 66yr old female, 5ft 2ins, size 12, blonde hair, GSOH, seeks knight in shining amour 58-62 with GSOH. Walsall. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 340763

BEAUTIFUL blue eyed 72yr old widow, GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest, caring gent of similar age for holidays, weekends away and happy times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358188

PATRICIA likes travel, cooking, socialising, seeks honest, sincere white male, 40-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402053

MEDIUM build female, 66, widow, 5ft 5ins, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407003

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, wine/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great Summer with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765

SINGLE female, 43, seeks kind, considerate male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406449

SHY lady, 38, seeks understanding, genuine, sincere male, 40-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409081

66YR old widow, seeks male for adult fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393436

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JANE attractive, seeking male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403807

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH. 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651

WIDOW young heated 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTM younger gentleman with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398187

48YR old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405871

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818

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SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

GRACE Jones lookalike, black lady, 53, 5ft 11ins, OHAC, WLTM male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396293

CARIBBEAN female, warm personality intelligent, honest, caring, understanding, 5ft 6ins, medium build, 45+, likes dancing, socialising, seeks likeminded male, 46-56 for LTR. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 371605

SEXY mature female, in great condition, but has been without for too long! Looking for intimate adult fun without commitment. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358186

BEAUTIFUL but lonely widow, adaptable and easygoing seeks broadminded male for no strings adult fun. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 373460

INEXPERIENCED young girl, very pretty, very flexible, seeks older male with plenty of experience to teach her how to please. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358188

PATRICIA likes travel, cooking, socialising, seeks honest, sincere white male, 40-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393108

LOUISE 45, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397865

BLACK attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine white male for friendship, maybe more. Holby. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367021

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169

LARGE sincere lady looking for LTR, age/size unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378409

40YR old female, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, own home, good job, likes swimming, cooking, meals out, wine, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387795

SHELIA 70plus, 5ft 2ins, GSOH, honest, N/S looking for similar male for companionship and days out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367018

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, royal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135

SARAH fun Brunette, attractive, brown eyes, slim, 5ft 5ins, smart, modern, likes nights out, looking for nice man, 28-30 with good personality who can make me laugh. Kidderminster. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398187

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male, 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400949

ATTRACTIVE slim lady 47, WLTM slim guy who wants to court a girl the old fashioned way. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 398597

BIGGIE bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501

LADY 70 plus looking for male who likes dancing, theatre, cinema, meals out, with own car for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401139

ANGELA 46, single mum, likes walks, meals out, theatre, nights in/out, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405871

SHELLEY 48, 5ft 5ins, brunette, seeking discreet relationship with male 48-52 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795

LADY 69, seeking friends male/female, 69-74 for companionship, friendship, dog walking, chatting, theatre, bingo. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404915

PETITE honest black female N/S, GSOH, likes walking, good conversation, cosy nights in, seeking genuine white male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362820

JANE 48s West Midlands, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403949

NICE looking caring Christian lady 36yrs old seeks kind, reliable gentleman for long relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401057

BLOWNIE attractive, educated lady, tall, slim, curly, 47, seeks tall, professional, 40-52. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362478

LIZ 47, N/S, 5ft, dark hair/eyes, loves socialising, happy, bubbly, seeks similar aged, N/S male for company, walks, pubs, socialising and travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396293

CARIBBEAN female, warm personality intelligent, honest, caring, understanding, 5ft 6ins, medium build, 45+, likes dancing, socialising, seeks likeminded male, 46-56 for LTR. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402945

HII boys! Beautiful, young, blue eyed Brunette, very very sexy, will do anything you wish, anytime. Red hot and waiting to hear from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358182

STUNNING young female looking for discrete, daytime, adult fun. Age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363460

CLASSY very feminine Brunette with unusual blue eyes seeks considerate, mature male to share intimate times. Call me, you won't regret it! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 373566

LOUISE 45, 5ft 5ins, medium build, average looks, likes reading, meals out, cinema, theatre, quiet pubs, honest, genuine, kind, caring, GSOH, seeks male, 42-58. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397130

BLACK attractive female, 34, slim, N/S, seeks genuine white male for friendship, maybe more. Holby. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367021

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386169

LARGE sincere lady looking for LTR, age/size unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378409

40YR old female, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, own home, good job, likes swimming, cooking, meals out, wine, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408003

SIMON many interests, sports, the arts, countryside, gardening, music, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407969

VERY attractive intelligent, slim, blonde lady, GSOH, kind, OHAC, young 50, seeks handsome, solvent, genuine male for days/night out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407768

GORGEOUS black attractive female, 66, GSOH, N/S, seeks genuine, caring, white male, 30-40 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407474

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male, 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407789

ATTRACTIVE slim lady 47, WLTM slim guy who wants to court a girl the old fashioned way. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407783

BIGGIE bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501

LADY 70 plus looking for male who likes dancing, theatre, cinema, meals out, with own car for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401139

ATTRACTIVE slim 39yr old female, N/S, seeking male for days/night out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795

40YR old male, 6ft 2ins, tall, slim, easygoing, caring, good listener, seeks independent, loving female for LTR and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402581

TONY 50, 5ft 10ins, 55, caring, honest, looking for sincere female with good personality, 45-55, enjoy being out, socialising, meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401375

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks female, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407715

SIMPLE male, 5ft 9ins, blond hair, into soul music, WLTM fun loving, caring black female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404647

BIRMINGHAM black male, 48, quiet, slim, easygoing, caring, good listener, seeks independent, loving female for LTR and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403575

LADY mid 40's, active, WLTM gent for friend, meals out, days out and theatre. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402439

46YR old female, looking for male for relationship and enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402289

SIMPLE male, 5ft 9ins, blond hair, into soul music, WLTM fun loving, caring black female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403575

JIMMY 53 looking fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157

SINGLE male, 59, no ties, honest, lonely, serene nature, seeks mature female with the view to becoming lifetime soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404527

TIGER looking for nice BBW for fun and frolics. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408015

TALL attractive male, 54, seeks attractive female for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407915

PETER 5ft 7ins, 35, cuddly, kind, considerate, seeking similar female, 18-30 who enjoys life to the full. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407869

TALL intelligent attractive British Indian gent, 44, seeks kind, attractive lady, 35-45 for LTR. Any nationality. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408003

SHY 60yr old male, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407847

JEFF 60's, 6ft 2ins, fit, seeking lady, mid 50-60's for friendship/relationship, nights in/out and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407811

GAY guy 58, Shropshire, seeks male 30-60 for friend/ companion or long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407819

PLACE AN ADVERT

<p

MUSIC

JT back to experience more

JUSTIN Timberlake will have his second major pop success of the year with the second instalment of his album *The 20/20 Experience* 2 of 2.

It's more slick and stylish funk with *Take Back The Night* the classy highlight. In truth, it would have been more satisfying to distill both installments into one excellent album rather than two good ones.

But with tickets snapped up for this tour even at over £100 each for the most expensive seats, there is no stopping this American singer and actor's rise to megastar status with a pop/R&B style akin to his idol Michael Jackson. JT has added a second date at Birmingham, so he will be performing at the LG Arena on April 11 and 12 next year.

Sisters

Sisters from California, Haim, live up to the considerable buzz surrounding them with chart-topping debut album *Days Are Gone*, which blends the lush sound of classic Californian soft rock (think Fleetwood Mac) with the crisp funk of Prince/Jam & Lewis.

Days Are Gone boasts several potential hits and their gig at Birmingham HMV Institute on December 5, booked before they hit it big, sees the Dibeth venue totting the hottest ticket in town.

The self-titled third studio album from American outfit **MGMT**, creative duo Andrew VanWyngarden and Ben Goldwasser, is a rich concoction of psychedelic whimsy. It is certainly worth investigating if you are partial to such mavericks as Beck and Syd Barrett or Brian Eno's early solo work. It should be an interesting evening at Wolverhampton Civic Hall when MGMT play on Sunday night (October 13).

Less happy-go-lucky and more grown-up having experienced heart-break, **Eliza Doolittle** returns with *In Your Hands*, an excellent pop album inspired by her break-up with a long-term boyfriend (Good Charlotte guitarist Benji Madden apparently).

If lead single *Big When I Was Little* recall her breakthrough hits *Skinny Genes* and *Pack Up*, the core of her second album are break-up songs like *Let It Rain* and *No Man Can*.



Justin Timberlake - LG Arena dates



Eliza Doolittle - broken-hearted



American sisters Haim set to be one of the biggest success stories of 2013

Sounding mature beyond her 17 years, singer and pianist **Birdy** follows up her debut album of cover versions and hit rendition of Bon Iver's *Skinny Love* with a set of solid songs co-written by herself on the album *Fire Within*. Highlights include *Light Me Up* and likeable lifting *All About You*.

Birdy can appeal to both fans of X Factor pop and indie rock. She is worth checking out if you like such as Florence and the Machine, Kate Nash and Ellie Goulding.

Motorhead return for their 21st album in 39 years, Lemmy restored to his greasy glory for a take-no-prisoners sonic assault called *Aftershock*. Opening with the classic Motorhead

sound on *Heartbreaker*, the powerhouse rockers barely let up the frenetic onslaught, although the bluesy *Lost Woman Blues* and Doors-ish *Dust And Glass* provide a contrast. Going To Mexico is cut from the same bourbon-soaked template as *Ace of Spades*, whilst *Silence When You Speak To Me* has veteran singer-bassist Lemmy at his menacing best.

Other highlights including *Crying Shame*, built upon a rock 'n' roll piano riff, mosh-making piledriver *Queen of the Damned* and the Clash-like *Keep Your Powder Dry*. Anyone going to the gig at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on November 19 can expect a loud and full-on hard rock experience. LB.

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What's On! Halesowen

Mars aiming for a gig to Treasure
SLICK American R&B star Bruno Mars will be in concert at Birmingham NIA tomorrow.

With the success of most recent album Unorthodox Jukebox, more than 50 million single sales worldwide and 14 Grammy nominations, the 27-year-old from Hawaii has reached superstar status.

His hits include Treasure, Grenade and When I Was Your Man.

Modfather and his OCS guitarist gigs

THE Modfather, Paul Weller, has a sold out gig at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Wednesday, October 16.

Meanwhile, the former Jam man's band member and Ocean Colour Scene guitarist Steve Cradock has a home city gig at Birmingham Digbeth venue The HMV Institute on November 1.

It will feature tracks from his solo album Travel Wild Travel Free.

Lazy Doreen is to grant an audience

YOUTUBE sensation and Black Country playwright David Tristram's comic creation Doreen, as played by Walsall actress Gill Jordan, is on tour in the West Midlands.

The self-confessed layabout and scrounger invites her fans to An Audience with Doreen at The Public in West Bromwich tomorrow night and Sutton Coldfield Highbury Theatre on Sunday.

Ghosts from the past haunt elderly couple in a new play

War Horse gallops into Birmingham



A scene from War Horse, which is being staged at Birmingham Hippodrome

ONE of the most popular plays of recent years finally arrives in Birmingham next week when the National Theatre's award-winning production of War Horse begins a three-and-a-half week residency at the city's Hippodrome theatre.

Adapted by Nick Stafford from the popular children's book by Michael Morpurgo, about a farm boy and his

beloved horse who both find themselves on duty amid the horrors of the First World War, the play is still running in London's West End and was made into a film by Steven Spielberg.

It is most famous for the incredible puppet horses and their life-like movement, created by the Handspring Puppet Company.

This touring production of War Horse will be staged at the Hurst Street theatre from Wednesday, October 16, until Saturday, November 9.

On November 8 Michael Morpurgo himself will be making a special appearance at the theatre giving an afternoon reading from the book, accompanied by musicians.

MAUREEN Lipman returns to Birmingham Rep, for the first time since Glorious in 2005, to star opposite voice of The Simpsons Harry Shearer in poignant New York comedy-drama

Daytona from October 21 to 26

They play an elderly Jewish couple with a passion for ballroom dancing whose lives are thrown into turmoil by the arrival of a relative with news harking back to the Nazi death camps.

Oliver Cotton's new play has received acclaim and is coming to the refurbished Rep as part of its UK tour.

Meanwhile, Martin Shaw returns home to Birmingham to lead the cast in classic trial drama Twelve Angry Men at the Rep until October 19. This places TV's former Judge John Deed back in a legal setting, trying to persuade fellow jurors including Hollywood actor Robert Vaughn.

Another familiar US film and TV actor, Starsky himself, Paul Michael Glaser stars in Craig Revel Horwood's new version of If I Were A Rich Man musical Fiddler On The Roof at the Grand, Tuesday to Saturday. The regular Royal Shakespeare Company audience will be bolstered by fans of former Doctor Who and Broadchurch star David



Maureen Lipman as Ellie in new play Daytona

Tennant when he begins his stint as Richard II at Stratford-upon-Avon today.

It remains in repertoire until November 16 and will be screened live in cinemas on November 13.

Birmingham Royal Ballet stage their sumptuous version of Sleeping Beauty at the Hippodrome until Saturday whilst a version of the fairy tale on ice is skated by Imperial Ice Stars at Birmingham New Alexandra.

REVIEW
Angry jurors on top form

12 Angry Men
Birmingham Rep
WHEN you re-enact a film as iconic and acclaimed as 12 Angry Men you had better get it right, fortunately the terrifically passionate cast led by Martin Shaw did and superbly so.

Shaw, who takes the part of the quietly spoken architect, Juror No8, wonderfully played by Henry Fonda in the 1957 film from Sidney Lumet, is supported by a cast which includes Hollywood Walk of Famer Robert Vaughn, US film star Jeff Fahey and Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels act Nick Moran.

The drama focuses on the tensions of a jury deciding the fate of a juvenile delinquent accused of murdering his father and facing the electric chair in 1950s America.

When the vote is taken one man, Juror No8, stands alone and dares to express his doubts much to the chagrin of the others.

Shaw's character tries to express his doubts amid the clamour of bigotry which surfaces from the variety of characters, none more so than Miles Richardson as Juror No.10 who is absolutely fantastic as the furious and sickeningly bigoted blue collar 'Joe'.

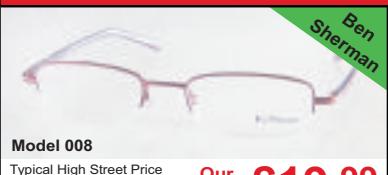
There are incredibly poignant moments in the drama which for such a serious subject matter oddly elicited a great many laughs from the audience.

12 Angry Men runs at The Rep until October 19.

Danny Farragher

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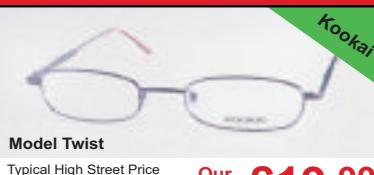
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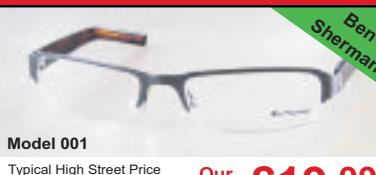
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SATURDAY'S TV 12.10.13

CHOICE



Jack Donnelly

Atlantis

BBC1, 8.30pm

From the get-go, this series has been action-packed, with edge-of-the-seat adventure around every corner; there's certainly no time to draw breath between scenes, never mind nip out to make a cup of tea. This week, our heroes have to deal with the frightening sport of bull-leaping – and yes, what you're probably imagining right now is exactly what it is. Basically, Jason, Hercules and Pythagoras upset a nobleman and as punishment must evade a charging bull by vaulting over it – which is definitely easier said than done.

BBC1

7.30 Breakfast, 10.00 Saturday Kitchen, 11.30 Paul Hollywood's Bread, (R) **12.00** Football Focus, **12.45** Saturday Sportday, **1.00** BBC News; Weather, **1.20** Formula 1; Japanese Grand Prix – Qualifying, **2.35** MotoGP, **3.35** Ronnie's Animal Crackers, (R) **4.05** Ronnie's Animal Crackers, (R) **4.35** Escape to the Country, (R) **5.20** BBC News; Regional News; Weather, **5.40** Pointless Celebrities, **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing. The couples perform to some of the greatest love songs of all time.

8.30 Atlantis. An argument with a nobleman sees Jason and his friends forced to face a deadly challenge – but as they pull together, dark forces conspire against them.

9.15 The National Lottery Live. Chris Evans reveals the results of the Lotto draw and the new special event draw 49-1, and reveals the locations of winning tickets for the £100m jackpot.

9.25 Casualty. Ash and Tees work to discover why a mother and daughter are so at odds about how far the team should go to save a loved one's life. Jamie inadvertently exposes a love triangle.

10.15 BBC News; Weather, **10.35 The Rolling Stones Return to Hyde Park**. Sweet! Sixty years since the veteran band's London concert, which took place in July; National Lottery Update.

11.50 Film: The Man Without a Face, (1993) Drama, starring Mel Gibson.

1.40 Weatherview, **1.45 BBC News**.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two, **6.55 Film:** Lady Macbeth, (1947) **8.25 Film:** Two-Way Switch, (1950) **9.50 The Sky at Night**, (R) **10.40 The History of Britain**, (R) **10.40 The Life of Birds**, (R) **11.30 Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age**, (R) **12.00 The A to Z of TV Cooking**, **12.45 Talking Pictures**, **1.35 Astaire and Rogers Sing**, (R) **1.45 American Songbook**, (R) **2.05 Film:** Carefree, (1938) **3.30 South Pacific**, (R) **4.30 Urban Jungle**, **5.00 Flug It!**

6.00 Robert Peston Goes Shopping. The retail boom of the late 1990s and early 2000s, (R)

7.00 Count Arthur Strong. Michael is bitten by a dog, (R)

7.30 Meerkats: Secrets of an Animal Superpower. Natural World's Meerkat, which narrates the story of a 20-year study of the behaviour of a family of meerkats that has led to the animals becoming famous around the world, (R)

8.30 Dad's Army. The men use up all their ammunition shooting at a passing army truck, (R)

9.00 The 70s. Improved employment rights for women and the rise of punk rock, (R)

10.00 The Sarah Millican Slightly Longer Television Programme. Extended edition, With guests David Harewood, Matthew Morrison and Diarmuid Cleary.

10.40 Film: Glorious '39, (2009) Period thriller, starring Romola Garai, Bill Nighy and David Tennant.

12.45 Film: X The Unknown, (1956) **2.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Babou, **6.10 Matt Hattie Chirrups**, (R) **6.35 Dino Dan**, (R) **6.50 Dino Dan**, (R) **7.00 Canimals**, (R) **7.10 Canimals**, (R) **7.00** **7.15 Canimals**, (R) **7.25 Sooty**, **7.35 Horrid Henry**, (R) **7.50 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**, **8.15 Bottom Knocker Street**, **8.30 Milk Box**, **9.25 Mystery Island**, **10.00 Cookin' Up**, (R) **10.25 Murder, She Wrote**, (R) **10.25 ITV News**; Weather, **11.30 Surprise Surprise**, (R) **12.35 The Dales**, (R) **1.00 Doc Martin**, (R) **2.00 The X Factor**, (R) **3.50 Film: Horrid Henry: The Movie**, (2011) **5.35 Regional Programme**; Weather, **5.45 ITV News**; Weather, **6.00 You've Been Framed!**

Featuring lookalikes of David Cameron and Lorraine Kelly, **6.30 Fool Britannia**. A pizza delivery driver gets embroiled in a hostage negotiation.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. With Anton Du Beke, Denise Van Outen, Diane Abbott and Matt Le Tissier.

8.00 The X Factor. The chance for the final 12 to shine has arrived as they take to the stage in the first live studio round, performing hits from the 1980s. Dermot O'Leary hosts. The results are tomorrow at 8pm.

10.15 The Jonathan Ross Show. New series, with Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, Cilla Black and James Arthur.

11.20 ITV News; Weather, **11.35 Film: The Eagle-Sanction**, (1975) Spy adventure, starring Clint Eastwood.

1.45 Jackpot247, **3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA**, (R) **3.45 ITV Nightscreen**.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 British GT, **6.35 Film**: Superbikes World Cup Championship, **7.05 XTEGRA England**, **8.00 The Morning Line**, **9.00 The American Football Show**, **10.00 Frasier**, (R) **10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond**, (R) **11.00 The Big Bang Theory**, (R) **11.30 The Big Bang Theory**, (R) **12.00 Undercover Boss USA**, (R) **1.30 Channel 4 Racing**, **4.10 Come Dine with Me**, (R) **5.10 Come Dine with Me**, (R) **6.10 Come Dine with Me**, Radio DJ Paul Shutteworth hosts the final dinner party in Shropshire, (R) **6.40 Channel 4 News**.

7.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. Coulson and the team race to find a kidnapped scientist, and Skye comes up with an idea to crack the case, but the agreed plan of action is suddenly turned on its head.

8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud follows a couple's project to transform a 1960s forester's lodge into a unique Japanese home, complete with a tatami room and sliding paper walls, (R)

9.00 Film: The Adjustment Bureau, (2011) Premiere. A power broker's shadowy figures are running his life and tries to fight the fate they have planned for him. Sci-fi thriller, with Matt Damon and Emily Blunt.

11.05 Film: The Hole, (2009) Premiere. Two brothers left alone in their new house discover a hole in the basement. Horror, starring Chris Massoglia.

12.55 Film: 13 Assassins, (2010) **3.00 Hollyoaks**, (R) **3.05 Deal or No Deal**, (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake, **6.10 Power Rangers**; **Midnight**, **7.40 Sluggers**, (R) **8.05 The Dog Busters**, (R) **11.35 Animal Maternity**, (R) **12.35 Film:** Columbo: Dead Weight, (1971) **2.10 Film:** Mosquito Squadron, (1968) **4.00 Film:** Battle of Britain, (1969) **6.30 Lost Heroes of World War One**, (R)

7.00 WWI's Tunnels of Death: The Big Dig. Part one of two. An archaeological team explores First World War battlefields near the village of Messines in Belgium, uncovering trenches, bunkers and tunnels. Part of the British at War season, (R)

8.00 War Hero in My Family. Celebrates the stories of relatives who made sacrifices during times of war. Chris Tarrant and Lisa Faulkner learn about the heroes in their families. Part of the Britain at War season, (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend, **9.00 Film: A Fistful of Dollars**, (1964) A nameless gunslinger rides into a town split by feuding families, and plays them off against each other. Sergio Leone's Western, starring Clint Eastwood.

11.05 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation: Henry's birthday celebrations take an unusual turn, (R)

12.00 SuperCasino, **4.00 Michaela's Wild Challenge**, (R) **4.25 Make It Big**, (R) **4.50 Roary the Racing Car**, (R) **5.00 Angels of Death**, (R) **5.10 Hana's Helpline**, (R) **5.20 Affairs of Janice**, (R) **25.25 The Funky Valley Show**, (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car**, (R) **5.50 Hana's Helpline**, (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel, **7.15 Doctor Who**, **8.00 Top Gear**, **9.00 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End**, (2007) **11.40 Family Guy**

BBC Four

7.00 Africa, **8.00 Lost Kingdoms of Africa**, **9.00 The Young Montalbano**, **10.55 Wellington Bomber**, **11.55 Otis Redding: Soul Ambassador**

ITV2

3.30 Peter Andre: My Life 4.30 You've Been Framed, **5.00 You've Been Framed!** & **Famous 6.00 Film:** Step Up 2, **The Street**, (2008) **8.00 Film:** The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, (2008) **10.15 The Extra Factor**, **11.00 Celebrity Juice**

ITV4

3.00 British Superbike, **Championship Highlights 4.00 Film:** Superman IV: The Quest for Peace, (1987) **6.00 Storage Wars**, **7.00 I Want That Car 8.00 Hornblower**, **10.10 Film:** Backdraft

ITV5

2.55 Agatha Christie's Marple, **4.55 A Touch of Frost**, **7.00 Rosemary & Thyme**, **8.00 Foyles War 10.00 Bomb Girls**, **11.00 Wire in the Blood**

ITV

4.10 Rules of Engagement, **5.05 How I Met Your Mother**, **6.05 The Big Bang Theory**, **7.00 How I Met Your Mother**, **7.30 Suburgatory**, **8.00 New Girl**, **9.00 Film:** GI Joe: The Rise of Cobra, (2009) **Action Adventure**, starring Channing Tatum, **11.20 Film:** Planes, Trains and Automobiles (1987)

Film4

2.40 The Thirty-Nine Steps, (1938) **4.45 Ladyhawke**, (1985) **7.05 17 Again**, (2009) **Comedy**, starring Matthew Perry and Zac Efron, **9.00 Date Night**, (2010) **10.45 The Crazies**, (2010)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 13.10.13

CHOICE



Lily James

BBC1

- 6.00 Live Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix. 9.15 The Arrow Marr Show. 10.15 Sunday Morning Live 2013. 11.15 Sunday Politics. 12.30 Escape to the Country. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix Replay. 4.00 Points of View. 4.15 Songs of Praise. 4.50 The Great British Year. (R) 5.50 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.
- 6.20 **Countryside**. John Craven harvests wild fruit in Somerset and presents archive items.
- 7.20 **Strictly Come Dancing: The Geek**. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman announce which two couples are in the dance-off. Andrea Bocelli sings a classic love song and the professional dancers perform a group routine.
- 8.00 **Antiques Roadshow**. The team visit Tornley Hall near Bury St Edmunds, where items include a curious collection of handbags and a centuries-old ring bought at a car-boot sale. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the values.
- 9.00 **By Any Means**. The team tries to prove the guilt of a couple who have been cleared of stealing £3million from their children's charity fund, but a journalist's own digging puts the case at risk.
- 10.00 **BBC News: Regional News; Weather**.
- 10.25 **Film: Armageddon**. (1998) A team of oilmen with Bruce Willis, Ben Affleck, Liv Tyler, Michael Clarke Duncan and Billy Bob Thornton.
- 12.45 **Weatherview**. 12.50 BBC News.

BBC2

- 6.00 This is BBC Two. 6.05 Film: Great Day. (R) 7.25 Gardeners' World. (R) 8.55 The Beechgrove Garden. 8.25 Live MotoGP. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 What to Eat Now. (R) 12.30 MotoGP.
- 2.05 **EastEnders**. 4.00 The House That £100 Built. (R) 5.00 Flap It! 6.00 **Great British Railway Journeys**. Michael Portillo visits Hadrian's Wall. (R)
- 6.30 **The Great British Bake Off**. (R)
- 7.30 **The Ginge, the Geordie and the Geek**. Ventiloquist Bob causes heartbreak for his puppet.
- 8.00 **How to Build: A Super Car**. How the McLaren racing team used Formula One technology to design and construct the new 12C roadster. Featuring contributions by Ron Dennis, Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button. (R)
- 9.00 **The Ottomans: Europe's Muslim Emperors**. Ragh Ornaar compares the reigns of Suleiman the Magnificent and Abdul Hamid II.
- 10.00 **The Wright Man**. Sam and Phil go on the run. (R)
- 10.30 **QI XL**. Extended edition. With Sandi Toksvig, Trevor Noah and Jason Manford.
- 11.15 **Never Mind the Buzzcocks**. Peter Andre hosts, with Jason Gardiner, Ana Matronic, Charles Cave and Tony Law. (R)
- 11.45 **Mock the Week**. With Chris Addison, Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons. Last in the series. (R)
- 12.15 **Film: Aviarydays**. (2009) 1.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 2.50 Holby City. (R) 3.50 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

- 6.00 **CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Babar**. 6.10 Matt Hatter Chipping. 6.15 The Dino Diaries. 6.20 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Camimals. (R) 7.10 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Canimals. (R) 7.25 Sooty. 7.35 Horrid Henry. (R) 7.45 Horrid Henry. (R) 8.00 Almost Naked Animals. (R) 8.15 Bottom Knocker Street. 8.30 Fish Hooks. 45 Fish Hook. 9.00 Fish Rush. 12.55 ITV News. 9.30 Ade in Britain. (R) 10.30 **Film: Columbo: Negative Reaction**. (1974) 12.30 ITV News: Weather. 12.40 Inside the National Trust. 1.45 The X Factor. (R) 4.00 Foot Britannia. (R) 4.25 Big Star's Little Star. (R) 5.30 Downton Abbey. (R)
- 6.35 **Regional Programme: Weather**.
- 6.45 **ITV News: Weather**.
- 7.00 **Coronation Street**. Hour-long episode. David receives the results of Lily's DNA test.
- 8.00 **The X Factor Results**. Dermot O'Leary reveals the names of the acts who are safe, and the two least popular have to sing for survival, before one of them leaves.
- 9.00 **Downton Abbey**. In the aftermath of the eventful party, Mary is forced to answer a pressing question about her future. Meanwhile, Carson reveals surprisingly intimate details about his former life.
- 10.05 **ITV News: Weather**.
- 10.20 **Film: Senna**. (2010) Premiere. Documentary about Formula One driver Ayrton Senna.
- 12.20 **Film: Stars. 2.25 British Superbike Championship Highlights. 3.15 Motorsport UK. 4.05 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)**

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **The Treacle People**. (R) 6.10 **Threepwood**. (R) 6.35 The American Portillo Show. (R) 7.00 The Hover Castle Triathlon. 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 1.00 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 1.30 **The Simpsons**. (R) 2.00 **The Simpsons**. (R) 2.30 **Film: Mighty Joe Young**. (R) 4.00 **Film: Fury Vengeance**. (2010)
- 6.30 **Channel 4 News**.
- 7.00 **World's Weirdest Weather**. Alex Beresford discovers how an unusual combination of weather phenomena created deadly storms in 1953, which resulted in some of the UK's worst flooding. Last in the series. (R)
- 8.00 **Kevin McCloud's Man Made Home**. With the main structure in place, Kevin looks to add a few final touches to his coastal retreat, installing a solar-powered shower and a floating beach bar. Last in the series. (R)
- 9.00 **Holiday**. Sariel tries to track down those responsible for the attack on Langley and recruits an unlikely expert to follow the money trail, while Carrie learns who she can really trust.
- 10.00 **Was It Something I Said?** Panel show, with guests Ed Byrne and Gabby Logan.
- 10.35 **Film: The Crafty Man**. With Nicole Scherzinger, Johnny Knoxville and Gok Wan. (R)
- 11.40 **Gogglebox**. (R)
- 12.25 **Paddy's TV Guide**. (R) 1.10 American Football Live. 4.45 British GT. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R) 5.55 River Cottage Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

- 6.00 **Milkshake!** Peppa Pig. 6.05 **Rover the Racing Car**. (R) 6.15 **Fifi and the Flowertots**. (R) 7.25 **Bubble Guppies**. (R) 8.40 **The Mr Men Show**. (R) 9.30 **Chloe's Closet**. (R) 7.00 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.10 **Bananas in Pyjamas**. (R) 7.25 **Make Way for Noddy**. (R) 7.40 **City of Friends**. (R) 7.50 **Bert and Ernie's Adventures**. (R) 7.55 **Little Princess**. (R) 8.10 **The Adventures of Bobo**. (R) 8.45 **Frost on Interviews**. (2010) 9.00 **Comedy Connections**. (R) 10.00 **Medieval Lives**: Birth, Marriage, Death. 11.40 **Film: La Vie en Rose** (2007)
- ITV2
- 2.30 **Film: The Little Vampire** (2000)
- 4.25 **Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed**. (2010) 5.15 **Film: The 39 Steps** (1935) 6.00 **The Xtra Factor**. (2013) 7.00 **The Only Way Is Essex**. (2010) 8.00 **Outrageous Celebrity Frock Ups**. 11.50 **Tricked**
- ITV3
- 2.55 **Foyles War** 4.45 **Film: Are You Being Served?** (1977) 7.00 **Lewis** 9.00 **The Classic BRIT Awards** (2013) 10.35 **Film: The Breakfast Club** (1985)
- ITV4
- 10.45 **Live British Touring Car Championship** 6.30 **World Sport**: Crazy Racing. 6.40 **Police Camera**, Action. 7.15 **Film: Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol** (1987) 9.00 **Film: City Slickers** (1991) 11.20 **Film: Blazing Saddles** (1974)
- ITV5
- 3.45 **How I Met Your Mother** 5.40 **The Big Bang Theory** 7.10 **Rules of Engagement** 7.35 **Film: Ever After: A Cinderella Story** (1998) 10.00 **New Rude Tube** 11.00 **How I Met Your Mother** 11.30 **Don't Trust the B**** in Apartment 23**
- ITV6
- 2.30 **Clueless** (1995) 4.50 **The Golden Child** (1996) 6.40 **Mona Lisa Smile** (2003) 9.00 **Skyline** (2010) 10.50 **Inglourious Basterds** (2009)

Listings supplied by Press Association

DIGITAL

- BBC Three**
- 7.00 **Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix Highlights** 8.00 **Film: Chicken Run** 9.00 **Documentary: The Milkshake**
- 9.30 **Russell Howard's Good News**
- 10.00 **Family Guy** 10.45 **Some Girls** 11.15 **American Dad!**
- BBC Four**
- 7.00 **Miss Marple** 7.50 **Britain's Wild Places: The Sheep Beside the Seaside** 8.00 **Review Show** 8.30 **Woman Book Award** 9.00 **Frost on Interviews** 10.00 **Comedy Connections** 10.45 **Medieval Lives**: Birth, Marriage, Death. 11.40 **Film: La Vie en Rose** (2007)

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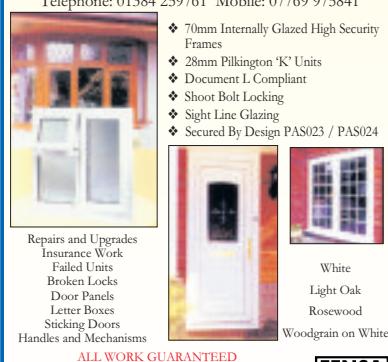
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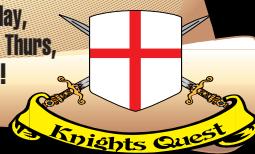
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Fri, Sat, Sun • Dress Code...Dress To Impress!

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

Constantine, Channel 5, 11pm
Exorcist John Constantine is cursed with the ability to see spirits stalking the Earth, and grudgingly takes on the forces of evil, hoping his actions will earn him a place in heaven. However, he is told he has terminal cancer and time for salvation is running out – unless a policeman investigating her twin sister's death can find the key to saving his soul. Supernatural thriller, starring Keanu Reeves and Rachel Weisz. (2005)

TUESDAY
The Girl in the Park, BBC1, 11.25pm

A grieving mother withdraws from her friends and family after her three-year-old daughter disappears in Central Park. Fifteen years later she befriends an 18-year-old conwoman with a chequered past, and begins to believe the troubled teenager could be her own long-lost child. Drama, starring Sigourney Weaver. (2007)

WEDNESDAY
No Way Out, BBC1, 11.45pm

A navy officer unwittingly has an affair with a politician's mistress, and becomes involved in the investigation after she is murdered. However, he soon suspects the plan is to find a scapegoat rather than the real killer – and that he is the most likely candidate to take the fall. Political thriller, starring Kevin Costner. (1987)



Angels & Demons, Friday, Channel 5, 11pm

THURSDAY
Damn the Defiant!, Channel 4, 1.10pm

The commander of a British warship fighting in the Napoleonic campaign faces bitter opposition from his right-hand man, a cruel and sadistic officer hired by the crew. In a battle of wills between the pair, the captain's second-in-command tries to provoke his leader's wrath by tormenting his son, an officer on the vessel. Drama, starring Alec Guinness and Anthony Quayle. (1962)

FRIDAY
Bowfinger, ITV, 10.35pm

A struggling Hollywood producer comes up with a cunning plan to splice secretly filmed footage of a famous actress star into his latest low-budget sci-fi movie to give it a veneer of quality. However, his efforts drive the bewildered actor into having paranoid delusions that aliens really have invaded the Earth. Comedy, starring Steve Martin and Eddie Murphy. (1999)

Angels & Demons, Channel 5, 11pm

Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to deal with a crisis. The Pope has died and the four cardinals in line to be his successor have all been abducted by a mysterious sect that is threatening to murder them. Thriller sequel to The Da Vinci Code, with Tom Hanks and Ewan McGregor. (2009)

WINTER SALE

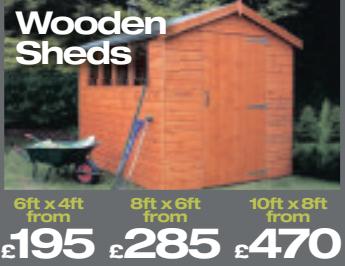
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BUILDINGS

Pick of the Week

Guests try to find the right words for David

Here it is, just what the world needed – another comedy panel show. Yep, there are quite a few about at the moment, and new ones have to work doubly hard to make themselves stand out.

Luckily, Was It Something I Said? is already a cut above the rest of the opposition. After all, it's hosted by David Mitchell who, having appeared many times on Would I Lie to You? and QI, is well-qualified to pose the questions here.

The team captains are also very funny men indeed – Micky Flanagan and Richard Ayoade.

For those who missed last week's opening edition, the format is simple: two teams must answer questions based on quotations that can come from anywhere, including books, films, interviews and the internet.

Mitchell himself is probably the best person to explain more about it: "It's a quiz where people have to work out who said certain things or what certain people have said. So it's about celebrities, historical figures, current affairs and history."

"We've tried to make it jolly and irreverent and funny, but also a bit informative and interesting. It's an exciting way of watching some comedians trying to solve a quiz about famous people and vaguely impart some interesting information about them at the same time."

The show marks the first time Mitchell has hosted such a programme, and he admits it's harder work than it looks.

"Being the host is a very different role, chipping in some of the time, while managing the quiz and working out what to say to link the rounds.

The great thing about being in the host's chair is that you can make yourself look so knowledgeable.

"But it can be tricky. Usually the panelists are people who are bright and want to talk and you need them to keep talking, so you can't slap them down hard because they might go quiet and then you're stuck. So it is my policy generally to let them talk and drift. Some of the best material comes when things are allowed to run and breathe."

"We wanted it off-the-cuff and as organic and natural as possible, so I tried not to be too school-mastery about things. Fortunately, I have no natural authority, so it's very easy for me to do that!"

Mitchell would probably make a good panelist on this show – he even has a favourite quote.

"It's attributed to Voltaire, but people say it wasn't actually him... Either way it is a very wise thing – I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

This week, Micky is reunited with his I Love My Country host Gabby Logan, while comedian Ed Byrne is the other guest panelist.



David Mitchell hosts Was It Something I Said?, Sunday, Channel 4, 10pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY
The Gadget Show
Channel 5, 8pm

It's back for an 18th series, and will soon celebrate its 250th edition, but what makes The Gadget Show so watchable? Well, it could be the fact that as well as putting the latest innovations to the test, it explains them in a way that's accessible to even the most technologically challenged viewer. So, if you've been trying to get your head around the concept of this year's most talked-about piece of kit, Google Glass, all should become clear as Rachel Riley and Jason Bradbury check it out.

Stephen Fry: Out There
BBC2, 9pm

Stephen Fry is gay. We've known it ever since he first stepped into the spotlight as a young comedian back in the 1980s; it's something we're familiar with and, in fact, it would probably be safe to say that nobody really thinks about his sexuality any more. He's just Stephen Fry, that much-loved bloke off the telly. However, for some people, coming out isn't easy; in fact, it can cost them their lives. In this new, two-part documentary, Stephen is travelling the globe to find out how different countries and cultures regard homosexuality. He begins his journey close to home by meeting Elton John and David Furnish.

TUESDAY
Live International Football
ITV, 7.30pm

England face a potentially crucial contest this evening, as they host Poland at Wembley Stadium

in their final Group H World Cup qualifier. There were a number of permutations that could affect the outcome of this group coming into the last two rounds of fixtures, which began with matches last Friday. However, one thing for certain that Roy Hodgson's men will want to perform better than they did in the reverse fixture at Warsaw's National Stadium last October, which finished in a 1-1 draw. That original fixture had to be postponed until the following day due to a torrential downpour, and while the conditions were still not conducive to flowing football, the Poles arguably did a better job of adapting to the circumstances.

WEDNESDAY
When Gastric Bands Go Wrong
Channel 5, 9pm

These days, gastric bands provide a quick fix for those desperate to spur on weight loss, and, we hear of success stories in the women's mags and on television chat shows, but rarely do we hear of the gastric bands gone wrong. And now you're in for a shock. This documentary reveals the stories of people who have suffered devastating consequences when their gastric bands and surgery didn't go according to plan, including 38-year-old David, who lost over 24 stone in two years after having a gastric bypass operation. Initially he was thrilled with the results, but when his skin failed to tighten, he was left with over five stone of excess skin. Now, he's struggling to find a surgeon willing to help him.

The One and Only Cilla Black
ITV, 9pm

Whether you remember first hearing her on the radio in the 1960s or seeing her on the TV in the 1980s and 1990s, there's no doubt that Cilla Black is a showbiz institution. Still, it may come as a shock to some fans to realise that it's now 50 years since she became a star. And ITV, the channel which gave us Surprise Surprise and Blind Date, couldn't let the anniversary pass without a celebration. Her old mate Paul O'Grady is our host, while plenty of other famous friends, ranging from Amanda Holden to Ringo Starr, will either be dropping by in person or sending their best regards via video.

THURSDAY
Britain's Secret Treasures
ITV, 8.30pm

Michael Buerk and Bettany Hughes are back for a new series, and this time the show really is living up to its title. The first run saw the programme-makers working with the British Museum's Portable Antiquities Scheme, which is responsible for all finds in England and Wales, but now Treasure Trove Scotland and the Ulster Museum are also on



Stephen Fry: Out There, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

board. However, we're still in England for the first episode as broadcaster and anthropologist Mary Ann Ochota hears the story of a remarkable find in Lincolnshire. In 2010, recycling plant-worker Steve Allenby dug up several pieces of copper alloy, which were initially assumed to pieces of unexploded munitions. In fact, they were from something older and much, much rarer.

FRIDAY
Walrus: Two Tonne Tusker – Natural World
BBC2, 9pm

There's been plenty of attention given to the difficulties of breeding pandas in captivity over the year, but they're not the only animals which present a challenge when it comes to reproduction. Pacific walruses are notoriously hard to breed in captivity and one person who knows this only too well is zoological and marine mammal reproductive physiologist Holley Muraco. This documentary sees her head out to their breeding grounds in Alaska to see if she can find any inspiration in the wild.

Man Down
Channel 4, 9.30pm

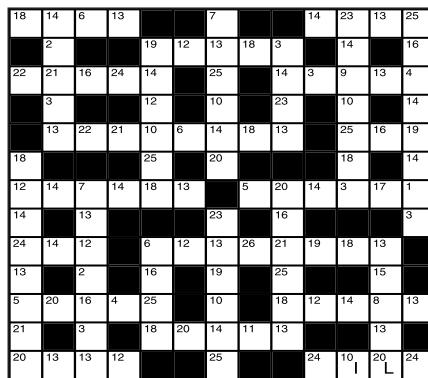
Actor and comic Greg Davies isn't daft. He knows that there are worse things you could do than grab a handful of your equally successful mates and write a comedy starring them. So that's what he did. He's written and stars in this new series which is sure to please his fans no end. He stars as Dan, a teacher whose world seems to be at near-collapse, and his weird and wonderful best friends provide little respite. In this first episode, Dan has a bad day when he loses his trousers.

Puzzler**Brain Gym**

No.242

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	I	C	X	H	Y	K	E	R	V	O	D	S	U
14	Q	W	J	M	F	P	L	Z	T	A	G	B	N

**Double Crossword**

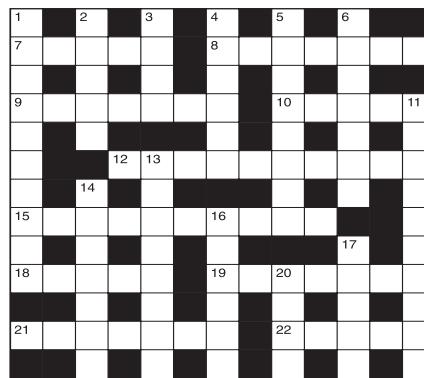
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:**Across**

- 7. It's drunk to a saint (5)
- 8. There's no let up for the rich (7)
- 9. Insect swallows fruit for nourishment (7)
- 10. Not seeing a window-screen (5)
- 12. Will it give a ghostly light? (6,4)
- 15. Nominally it forms a loose attachment (3,2,5)
- 18. Make a score (5)
- 19. Eavesdroppers of low degree (7)
- 21. It's nicer as a poison (7)
- 22. Time for music (5)

Down

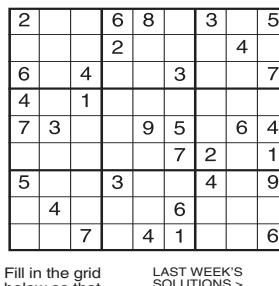
- 1. Tear things to pieces, and put them in order again! (10)
- 2. It's the custom to put it on (5)
- 3. It may spoil the look of a lid (4)
- 4. Can he carry his drink? (6)
- 5. How to get browned off (8)
- 6. Point wrongly claimed (7)
- 11. Cause of dejection in weathermen? (10)
- 13. Liking for a swan-song (8)
- 14. He knows the drill, presumably (7)
- 16. A portion for each (6)
- 17. It burns Alf up, then me! (5)
- 20. This nation is sound (4)
- 22. Awaken (5)

**Quick Clues:****Across**

- 7. Damp (5)
- 8. Calculate (7)
- 9. Unfathomable (7)
- 10. Centre (5)
- 12. Tyranny (10)
- 15. Inexpert (10)
- 18. Call forth (5)
- 19. Withdraw (7)
- 21. Deliberative assembly (7)
- 22. Awaken (5)

Down

- 1. Spotless (10)
- 2. Prophetess (5)
- 3. Check (4)
- 4. Of the eye (6)
- 5. Stress (8)
- 6. Crazy (7)
- 11. Unable to speak out (6-4)
- 13. Sham (8)
- 14. Bold decorative style (7)
- 16. Seldom (6)
- 17. Indistinct (5)
- 20. Weary (4)

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	2	5	3	9	1	7	8	4
9	3	7	2	8	4	6	5	1
1	8	4	7	6	5	2	9	3
4	7	3	1	5	2	9	6	8
8	9	2	6	7	3	4	1	5
5	6	1	4	3	7	2	8	7
7	7	8	4	2	9	5	3	6
2	4	6	5	3	7	8	1	0
3	5	9	8	1	6	4	7	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Barnet, 2 Use, 9 Train driver, 11 Unarmed, 12 Rain, 13 Mincer, 15 Leader, 17 Rates; 18 Success; 20 Illegibly; 22 Elm; 23 Dispenser, Down: 2 Air, 3 Minim; 4 Tirade; 5 Reverie; 6 Hurried meal; 7 Seeing red; 10 Against time; 11 Unmarried; 14 Castled; 16 Usages; 19 Cache; 21 Lie. QUICK - Across: 1 Transient; 8 Owe; 9 Destruction; 11 Penance; 12 Ideal; 13 Roused; 15 Allege; 17 Erase; 18 Valiant; 20 Interject; 22 Act; 23 Disengaged; Down: 2 Rue; 3 Siren; 4 Eschew; 5 Trivial; 6 Confederate; 7 Recollect; 10 Singularity; 11 Perpetual; 14 Erected; 16 Averis; 19 Learn; 21 Nag.

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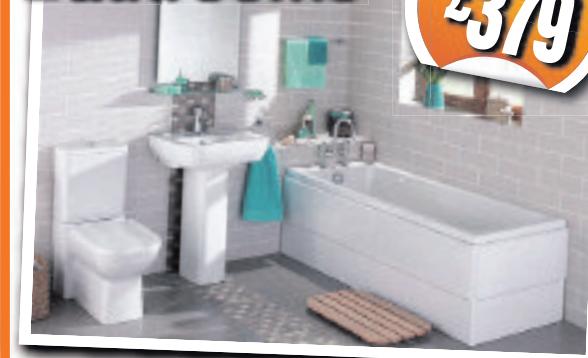


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There is also a spacious rear garden with a patio area and a fish pond. Sedgley is a popular village between Wolverhampton and Dudley part of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough.

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NEW
HALESOWEN, Cavalier Drive£895 pcm
An unfurnished detached house within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre and buses to Birmingham and Cradley Heath. This large house features a lovely living room, dining room, kitchen/diner, 2 double bedrooms, 4 bedrooms, master bedroom with en suite shower room, front & rear gardens, double garage and driveway parking.



HALESOWEN, Huntingdon Crescent£750 pcm
Centrally located to Halesowen. This immaculate property which is not to be missed features 4 good size bedrooms, 1 large reception room, fitted kitchen with dishwasher and fridge freezer, house bathroom with shower, conservatory, garage, central heating, double glazing, 3 bedrooms, house bathroom, master bedroom with en-suite, garage and driveway parking, gardens.



NEW
ROWEY REGIS, Pear Tree Drive£650 pcm
Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and close to the M5. This modern unfurnished detached house comprises of 1 reception room, fitted dining/kitchen, downstairs wc, gas central heating, double glazing, 3 bedrooms, house bathroom, master bedroom with en-suite, garage and driveway parking, gardens.



HALESOWEN, Sanderson Place£625 pcm
Luxury living in Hayley Green. A superb 1st floor apartment offering spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, 2 double bedrooms. Private rear garden. On road parking. Available now...



BEARWOOD, St Marys Road£625 pcm
A 2 bedroom furnished to suit mid terraced house located in this very popular area of Bearwood. The property offers spacious accommodation including 2 reception rooms, kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower, 2 double bedrooms. Private rear garden. On road parking. Available now...



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House£625 pcm
Luxury living in Hayley Green. This luxury 1st floor apartment offers spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with balcony, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking.



HALESOWEN, Graham Road£595 pcm

A 2 bed traditional semi detached house in a cul-de-sac location. An ideal position for Blackheath Town Centre and access to the M5. This unfurnished property features a lovely entrance hall, lounge with bay window, dining/kitchen, 2 double and 1 single bedrooms, shower room, gas central heating, double glazing, garage and driveway, rear garden.



HALESOWEN, Wiltshire Drive£595 pcm
Located on the Homer Hill Estate. A well presented semi-detached home briefly featuring 3 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, spacious lounge, dining room, family bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, front and rear gardens, unfurnished.



HALESOWEN, Wroxley House£595 pcm
Luxury living in Hayley Green. This superb luxury ground floor apartment offers spacious accommodation including open plan lounge/kitchen and diner with balcony, 2 double bedrooms, master with en-suite, further well appointed bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking.



CRADLEY HEATH, Halesowen Road£575 pcm
A very well presented mid terraced house on a popular road, with a local bus stop right outside. This large lounge features a large double sofa, 2 good size double bedrooms and 1 large single bedroom, 2 good size reception rooms, large fitted kitchen, bathroom with a shower. Benefits include gas central heating, double glazing, rear garden. On road parking or parking to the rear.



HALESOWEN, Hope Street£550 pcm
A fully refurbished ground floor apartment, set in a quiet peaceful residential area. This property features a bright lounge, refitted kitchen with electric hob and oven, 2 double bedrooms, refitted bathroom with shower. The apartment has double glazing, newly fitted electric heating, garage and rear garden.



WORDSLEY, Cookhill Drive£525 pcm
Located in the centre of Wordsley and ideal for local buses to Stourbridge and Merry Hill. Featuring gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted dining kitchen, 2 bedrooms, ensuite shower room to master bedroom, house bathroom, rear garden, driveway parking.



OLD SWINFORD, Heath Lane£515 pcm
Ideally located in the centre of Oldswinford for shops, transport links and Mary Stevens Park. This large and spacious end terrace house features 3 good size bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, downstairs bathroom, upstairs toilet, fitted kitchen, enclosed rear garden and on road parking.



HALESOWEN, Fairmile Road£495 pcm
Wellfully furnished. Situated in a popular residential area of Halesowen, with easy access to buses to the town. This modern furnished 1st floor apartment comprises of 2 double bedrooms, excellent natural light in lounge, modern fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, garage parking, and communal gardens.



HALESOWEN, Banners Street£495 pcm
A mid terrace property which has been refurbished comprises of 2 double bedrooms, brand new fitted kitchen, 2 reception rooms, white bathroom suite with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, garage parking, and communal gardens.



HALESOWEN, Howley Grange Road£485 pcm
An unfurnished split level flat on a sought after road. Ideal for Howley Grange Primary School and for Birmingham. This property features a utility room, fitted kitchen, living room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower. Benefits also include gas central heating, garden.



BRIERLEY HILL, Little John Street£475 pcm
Located within walking distance to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill. This unfurnished modern end mews house features 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, fitted kitchen, downstairs wc, spacious living room, bathroom with shower, rear garden, off road parking for 2 cars.



CRADLEY HEATH, Elbow Street£440 pcm
A wonderfully furnished 1st floor apartment within walking distance to Old Hill shops and train station. This property comprises a light and airy living room, fitted kitchen with white units, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, large tiered garden with decking area, on road parking.



LYE, High Street £425 pcm
Fully refurbished in the centre of Lye. This large and spacious 1st floor apartment has a lovely lounge with a feature bay window, 2 good size bedrooms, new bathroom suite but no shower, modern and contemporary kitchen with oven and hob, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking.



HALESOWEN, Leasowes Court£395 pcm
An unfurnished 1st floor flat within walking distance to Halesowen. Having undergone a complete re-decoration and new carpet throughout this apartment features a lovely lounge, fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower. Benefits include allocated parking, communal gardens, electric heating.



HALESOWEN, Netherend Lane£380 pcm
Well presented throughout. This unfurnished ground floor apartment is within walking distance to Cradley Heath Train Station and the Town Centre. This apartment comprises of a modern fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, bathroom with shower, 1 bedroom with built in wardrobes, en block garage.

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This modern property comprises lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, two bedrooms, family bathroom, drive and allocated parking. Halesowen.

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EPC D

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Jonah Drive, Tipton



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End terraced three bedroom property comprising two reception rooms, rear garden, allocated parking and garage.

Dibdale Street, Dudley



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EPC D

Semi detached two bedroom bungalow briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, modern kitchen, utility area, gardens, driveway and garage.

Maragret Vale, Tipton



Offers Over £140,000

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Semi detached three bedroom property. Lounge, kitchen/diner; utility, family bathroom, front and rear gardens, driveway and garage.

Lavender Road, Dudley



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New

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Semi detached three bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, downstairs bathroom and upstairs WC, rear garden and driveway.

Farm Road, Dudley



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NEW

A four bedroom, link semi detached property, comprising, two reception rooms, kitchen, lobby, bathroom, separate WC and rear garden.

Tudor Vale, Dudley



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New

Semi detached three bedroom property briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway.

Leasowe Road, Tipton



£74,950

New

Three bedroom mid terraced property briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, conservatory and bathroom.

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

New chapter in history of Peugeot hatches

HAVING the letters GTi across the back used to guarantee success for manufacturers but demand is nothing like it used to be.

So it's a bit of a surprise to see Peugeot investing heavily in the 208GTi – even if target sales are only around 2,000 in the UK for the year.

Perhaps it's the company's 30-year history of producing successful hot hatches that has convinced Peugeot the GTi will capture a slice of a market which includes Fiesta ST and Renaultsport Clio.

What strikes you first about the 208 is its subtle appearance. In fact it doesn't look much different from the regular three-door 208. But this is the most powerful 208 yet.

Spoiler

Outwardly the main things setting the GTi apart from the rest of the 208 range are a 'chequered flag' grille, boot spoiler, chunkier side sills and wheel arch extensions housing a set of 17in alloys.

Other distinguishing marks include red 'GTi' emblems on its C-pillars and the theme continues inside, with red stitching for the central vent surrounds, gearknob, seatbelts and door handles.

But while outwardly the GTi has very little to attract the eye of today's hot hatch enthusiast, there's a powerful engine, firm suspension and a wider track and a lower ride height to improve handling.

There's easily enough grip on offer and you can corner as hard as you want to and enjoy



The Peugeot 208GTi has a top speed of 143mph. Prices start from £18,895



The stylish interior of the 208GTi, with a leather finish across the dashboard

using the six-speed manual gearbox with good 143mph, 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds, 200bhp and 275Nm of torque.

Quite simply this 208 does everything you ask of it but is a more comfortable ride than a lot of the competition out there, which might not be what the hot hatch enthusiast is really looking for.

Buyers won't be disappointed with performance. In fact this GTi is a bit of a wolf in sheep's clothing. There's a top speed of

143mph, 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds, 200bhp and 275Nm of torque.

Peugeot claims average fuel consumption of 48mpg and 139g/km CO₂ emissions which means it will be cheap enough to run. I loved the cloth and leather sports seats and found plenty of kit to keep me interested including a DAB radio, rear parking sensors and automatic lights and wipers as standard. Highlights include the leather finish across the dashboard

and a stylish, flat-bottomed steering wheel.

On-the-road prices start at £18,895 but the test car would set you back nearer £20,000

thanks to metallic paint, cornering assist fog lights and a multifunction colour touch-screen navigation upgrade.

Peugeot's biggest problem will be whether hot hatch fans feel the 208GTi is different enough from the rest of the sector to tempt them to part with their money. Time will tell.

Bumper to bumper

Peugeot 208

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Classified Ads

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Index

1 Family

2 Leisure Time

3 Home & Services

4 Pets & Animals

5 Business & Farming

6 Property

7 Jobs

8 Motoring

9 Local Information

10 Personals

lost & found



LOST MATURE TABBY CAT

Fairly long-haired with white bib/paws. Last seen Oldbury, Quinton area, August 2. Please let me know if you think you may have seen him. Contact Nicola: 07811 490482.

MISSING - Blue Fronted Amazon Parrot. Found on right foot. Reward if returned. 07792 115984.

1 Family

education & tuition

SMART TUITION SERVICES
Tuition for 11+ and key stage 3/4 maths & science, £12/hour. (Smethwick based) 07816 825604.

elderly & disabled

ADJUSTAMATIC CHAIR rise, recline and massage, oatmeal, was £5,300, £500 o.n.o. 07903 568490.

ADJUSTAMATIC CHAIR rise, recline and massage, oatmeal, was £5,300, £500 o.n.o. 07903 568490.

ELL MOBILITY scooter, 4 wheels, never been used, 10 miles range, £350. Please call 01902 832637.

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MOBILITY SCOOTER 4 wheels, 5 months old, used 5 times, folds into car boot, £325. Genuine reason for selling. 01922 462941.

MOBILITY SCOOTER 4 wheels, folds into car boot, includes basket and bag, good condition, £250. 07528 186840. 9am-5pm.

MOBILITY SCOOTER, Days, as new, blue, £750. Telephone 01902 652292.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS from £350 can deliver, servicing available. Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384 250900 / 07831 246292.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £500. Plus New Lifts. 01925 405397/07897 273617

toys



KIDS RIDE ON ASTON MARTIN STYLE CAR

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2 Leisure Time

camping equipment

TRAILER 5ft x 3ft x 1ft 8", with large wheel, spare wheel and cover. £150. 07834 923394.

caravans / motorhomes

A BEAUTIFUL PARK Near Ludlow Shores end static caravan sale now on. why go further? Call Alma on 01584 823433.



ATLAS FESTIVAL CARAVAN

One bed, will sleep 6, Mid Wales, quiet site, decking, 2 fishing pools. Site fees paid for 2013. £3,750 o.n.o. 07595 178841.

BAILEY PAGEANT LIMOUSIN

Series 7, 2008, 4 berth, fixed bed, twin axle, large end bathroom, awning, many extras, immaculate condition, £8,995. 07884 074389.

COUCHMAN PASTICHE

2001, 4-berth, 18ft, bathroom, oven, fridge, heater, blinds, remote mover, awning, £3,600ono. 07851 634828.

HOLIDAY CARAVAN

Cosalt Torbay, 11 months holiday park, DG, GCH, walking distance into Stourport on Severn. £10,500. Call for full details: 07810 048113 or 07801 530894.

IMMACULATE Stellar

2006, 2 berth, caravan, motor mover, awning and all accessories, ready to go. £9,995. 07522 577285.

SWIFT FAIRWAY

2 berth, end bathroom, inc awning and some accessories. Good condition. £2,800. 01902 330359. 07762 051838.

35x12FT 6 BERTH CARAVAN

Modern, quiet, rural site. Excellent condition. Up-to-date caravan stand, ramp, patio and garden area. Suit semi / retired. £13,995 inc all fees. 07891 528061 or 01686 764080.

CONSERVATORY

Three piece coffee table, matching table, four chairs, excellent. £450 o.n.o. 01902 70404 or 07773 234308.

DOUBLE BED

Memory mattress £75. As new. Excellent condition. 01902 784464.

DOUBLE BED

modern steel frame / base, curved headboard, basket under, silver mirror, little use, £125 o.n.o. 07712 196295.

KIRK STANDARD

3 seater sofa, brown cream, six months old. £600 o.n.o. 01384 372388/07914 658075

NEARLY NEW

modern, brown material, medium sofa, matching one chair, must collect, £220 o.n.o. 0208 0253600.

NEARLY NEW

modern, brown material, sofa, matching one chair, must collect, £300 o.n.o. 07837 025360.

OLD CHARM

Oak dining room table with 6 matching chairs (including 2 carvers). £200 o.n.o. 01384 320030.

RECLINING CHAIR

Electric, black leather, as new, never used. £300 o.n.o. 01902 783002.

THREE PIECE SUITE

consisting of 3 seater sofa, 2 seater settle, armchair, beige fabric, excellent condition. £250 o.n.o. 01902 653515.

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07833 738857

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

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or 07508 311029.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

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consisting of 3 seater sofa, 2 seater settle, armchair, beige fabric, excellent condition. £250 o.n.o. 01902 653515.

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Screened, soil and crushed

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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we can accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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Rehoming - Penny - Yorkie, 7yrs, female. Barney - English Bull Terrier X, 8mths. Dan - Cairn, 4yrs, male. Beau - JRT X, 2yrs, female. Tia - blue Staffie, 5yrs, female. Foxy - Husky X, 9months, male. Mike - JRT, 1yr, male. Archie & Shoba - 7yrs, female. Husky X. Keeper - Staffie X, 4yrs, female. Marnie - 7yrs, female. Hestie - 10yrs, male.

01299 269181 or 07564 262371 www.forest-dog-rescue.org.uk

GERMAN SHEPHERD puppies, first vaccinations and vet checked. £250. 07972 604503.

JACK RUSSELL puppies, 8 weeks old, wormed, pets or working. 01902 858684 07857377.

JACKAPOO PUPPIES, Jack Russell cross Poodle, first vac, small. £195. 07972 604503.

KITTENS Eight weeks old, wormed and litter trained, £25 each.

01902 689992 or 07923 678845.

KITTENS Both girls, £20 each, to ensure good home, wormed. 07468 344664.

MINIATURE JACK Russell pups, boys, lovely temperament, £200. 07968 258422, 07986 996681.

SIERRIAN HUSKY pedigree, 18 months, good home wanted due to ill health. £400. 01902 563320.

SMALL JACK RUSSELLS

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14 year old little girl, all white,

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5 Business & Farming

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6 Property

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RELS COCKATOOS for sale. Please call 01902 823086.

RELS DOG RESCUE

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7 Jobs

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Heathens bosses to focus on last runs

DUDLEY Heathens bosses insist all their focus is on the remaining meetings of this season before looking ahead to 2014.

The club are gearing up for their Knockout Cup Final against Isle of Wight or Mildenhead with the home leg at Wolverhampton on Tuesday, October 29.

And chairman Nigel Pearson says it's too soon to say what plans are in place for next season.

He said: "We have once again raced in the spirit of the National League with teenagers like Ashley Morris, Max Clegg and Nathan Greaves in our side.

"It's been a pleasure to see these lads develop this year and even riders like Paul Starke have developed into Premier League riders.

"My own feeling is that the Premier League is too strong right now. It's far more powerful than it was when I worked with Long Eaton back in 1997."

"I'd love to see at least five British riders in every Premier League team - and if the structure was right we could go up a level with the likes of Tom Perry, Ashley Morris and Paul Starke as a starting point."

Ben's brace keeps Yeltz cup run alive

Eastwood Town 0 Halesowen Town 3

HOT-SHOT Ben Haseley took his tally for the season to 13 with two goals as Halesowen eased through to the next round of the FA Trophy and a home tie with St Neots.

After a slow start, Haseley opened the scoring on 19 minutes when he got on the end of a long throw from Tom Tonks to crash the ball home.

He scored his second, nine minutes later when he converted from a fine cross by Elliot Turner.

Halesowen suffered a blow just after the break when Iyedson Christie suffered a hamstring injury and was replaced by Nigel Penney.

But it didn't put them off their pace and they continued to create chances, their reward coming on 74 minutes when the impressive Chris Laight scored with a cross-shot to make it 3-0.

Baptism of fire for newly promoted club

Barton 3 OHHC 1st 2

OLD Halesoniens Hockey Club Mens 1st XI started the 2013/2014 season with a trip to Derbyshire.

Newly promoted Hales, faced Barton who had also been promoted from the East Division into Midlands 1.

The two sides started at a fast pace, and it was Hales who dominated the early stages.

Chances came thick and fast for the visitors, who looked to dominate the game.

Graham Knight terrorised the Barton defence with his runs, and his hard work eventually paid off

when he found the net to give Old Hales a 1-0 lead.

However, the home side hit back hard and soon equalised from a well-worked penalty corner.

Barton continued to put pressure on the Hales defence, and they took the lead before the half-time break.

In the second half, Hales picked up the pace again, and began to cause problems for the Barton defence.

The visitors grabbed the equaliser, when Captain Whiley found the net, after Doug Houghton's initial strike pinged

Hockey

off the post. Alex Fraser kept Hales in the game with some excellent close range saves, as Barton tried to reply to Hales' goal.

The game then became fraught, with both sides looking for a winner.

This led to a lack of discipline from both sides. Barton found themselves down to nine men, following two yellow cards in short succession, but Hales were unable to capitalise on their extra men advantage. Back to full strength,

the home side grabbed the winner with just five minutes remaining, after they found themselves with an overload.

Hales' attempt to equalise and throw players forward backfired, when Houghton and Charles Palmer took a seat on the side-line after being sin binned for fouls.

They play host to North Notts on Saturday, at the Ormiston Forge Academy, 1.30pm pushback.

OHHC Ladies 1st 1
Bournville 3 (abandoned)

OHHC Ladies 1sts saw their game abandoned with 15 minutes left on the clock.

The home side were trailing 3-1, when a severe injury to a Bournville player forced the game to end prematurely.

Worcester 2 OHHC 3rds 0

The Mens 3rd XI found themselves on the back-foot early on, following two quick goals from the hosts Worcester.

Goalkeeper Steve Charlton kept the score line to a minimum, facing an onslaught of shots for the remainder of the game. Other Results:

OHHC 4ths 3 Stourport 1

OHHC 5ths 3 Hampton 2

Streetly 7 OHHC Badgers 2

One point is enough as George claim title

Free Press Cup Final The George 211 Newport 210

IN a close fought final, The George came out on top by the narrowest of margins.

Wins by Elliott McGuinness (21-17), Pete Davenport and Paddy McGuinness (both 21-18) saw The George into a five-shot lead after the first four.

The lead was increased to seven shots after the middle four thanks to Steve Dickens (21-6), Paul Greene and McGuinness (both 21-20).

Drama in the back four saw Stewart Meddings win 21-19 but with no other winner, The George had slipped 12 shots behind with one game left on the green.

Steve Darling held his nerve to win his game 21-8 and give The George victory by one shot.

Ray Leath Open

Last Saturday 21-year-old McGuinness won his first major competition taking the £700 prize in the Ray Leath Open. Wins of 21-19, 21-15 and 21-19 saw him reach the final against top North Midlands bowler Paul Lamb.

McGuinness had bowled the Nordeley green well all evening but stepped up a gear to win the final 21-9.

Discipline collapses as game drawn

Dudley Town 2 Malvern Town 2

VICTORY wasn't on the cards for Dudley Town after a torrent of yellows and a red. The Robins had six players booked in the first half - all for dissent - and finally lost Alex Perry to an 85th-minute sending-off.

The hosts took the lead on 30 minutes when top scorer Dreniz Bala rounded the on-rushing keeper and raced on to slide the ball home.

But as the bookings mounted, a lack of discipline at the back cost Dudley a goal to the last kick of the half by Chris Parker.

Dudley regained the lead two minutes after the break through Adam Callinswood.

Perry picked up a second yellow for a challenge in his own half and his dismissal sparked an onslaught from the visitors, who equalised through Mark Saywell.

There was still time for another yellow and final chance for Dudley.

Development arrested by a barrage of scores

Walsall Development 1 Halesowen Ladies 10
HALESOWEN took on the reserves of Walsall and their early pressure was rewarded on the 11th minute when in-form Striker Rachel Letford scored.

Letford was put through by girl of the game Sarah Hamill, however the Yeltz side then seemed to relax which let the Walsall side get back on equal terms on the half hour mark.

After a dressing down from the touch line Halesowen woke up and devastated the reserve side with five goals in 15 minutes of class and quality playing from the side.

Hayley Chatwin started the rout with a neat cross from skipper Lyndsey Glover.

Shel Thomas scored what would be the goal of the game by skilfully going round two players then letting the ball over the keeper from out side the box.

Neat

Glover got her first with the help of some neat work from Hamill.

Chatwin took it a round the keeper to make it 5 and again Glover and Hamill teamed up to take it to half time mark where the side went in 6-1 up.

Come the second half it was business as usual and the undefeated Yeltz squad were comfortable and were in total domination of the game.

Chatwin got her hat-trick with a well-taken volley

Yeltz Ladies

within two minutes of the restart.

Hamill scored for her second successive week with a little clever lob over the keeper.

Hard working Sophie Richards was rewarded with a deserved goal with a dynamic run before slotting past the Development keeper.

Glover then made it 10 and scored her hat-trick for the second week on a row.

Halesowen could have even gone on to score more but excellent keeping and missed chances kept the score down.

Manager Scott McKee said: "Another day at the office for the players, fantastic performance when we get going were unstoppable."

"I must congratulate our defence as we didn't get it all our own way, they know who they are."

Next Sunday the Halesowen Ladies face Perrywoods at the grove kickoff's 2pm.



Chloe Harris of Halesowen in action against Walsall Development who conceded 10 goals during the match



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Thomas' pride at historic bronze

KRISTIAN THOMAS has spoken of his pride after claiming an historic bronze medal at the World Gymnastics Championships.

The Olympian became the first ever British gymnast to win a world medal in the vault after a score of 15.233.

It capped a successful championship in Antwerp for GB with Max Whitlock taking pommel horse silver and finishing fourth in the all-around final.

Olympic bronze medallist Thomas' place was in doubt after he fractured his leg in March which ruled him out of the European Championships.

And the 24-year-old, a member of the Earls Club, Halesowen, admitted he was stunned after almost missing the cut following an injury-hit year.

He said: "Three weeks ago I was still battling to try to get into the team. To nail the first vault the way I did was so special."

"It's amazing. It's been a roller-coaster year and to get that medal – I couldn't be any happier."

"To make the final was the first aim then to get a medal I'm over the moon, really, really happy and proud."

And he was praised by championship debutant Whitlock. "Watching Kristian's final on the vault was really good," he said. "For GB to come away with two medals is amazing."

Karate kids medals haul

MEMBERS of a martial arts club which has dojos in Dudley and Sedgley have returned from a competition with a haul of awards.

Fighters from Fortknocks Kimura Shukokai Karate club came away from the Kimura Cup championships with three gold, seven silver, three bronze medals and the special Kimura Cup award.

Emma Bradley took Gold in the girls 12-15 age group Kumite event, she made it into the final of the Cadet Senior Kata 12-15 group to take the Silver.

She was also awarded Best Competitor of the tournament and won the Kimura Cup.

Paul Thompson took a comfortable win in the men's Junior Kumite event.

Sensei Audun Daniels took gold in the Men's Senior Kumite event.

Sensei Audun Daniels was very pleased with the outstanding results.

Marvellous Morris leads his team to victory

Speedway

CAPTAIN fantastic Ashley Morris gave a Monmore Green masterclass to lead Dudley to a 13-point advantage in their National League play-off final first leg.

The local youngster struck a magnificent 15-point maximum as the Heathens beat King's Lynn 53-40 in a scintillating clash. Yet their title hopes were on a knife-edge as they travel to Saddlebow Road – scene of last year's heartbreak loss to Mildenhall – for the decisive second leg on Wednesday night.

They have their skipper to thank for the advantage after he stormed to a memorable maximum.

After seeing partner Lewis Blackbird dis-

qualified following a fall, Morris fought from the back to hunt down Young Stars ace Lewis Kerr and take a sensational heat 15 triumph.

It was Morris' second great battle with the determined Kerr after the duo fought out a classic heat nine which also saw the Heathens man prevail. The 19-year-old ended the night unbeaten, much to the delight of a passionate home crowd.

Although Morris enjoyed a night to remember, he received strong support

throughout the side. Prior to his disappointing heat 15 fall, Blackbird provided a strong performance from the No.1 position – adding three classy race wins to end with double figures.

And Paul Starke fought hard for his eight points, holding on for an important point in heat 13 despite losing his steel shoe.

Dan Greenwood bounced back from a disqualification to notch a solid score and combine with Blackbird for an important 5-1 in his final outing.

Youngster Max Clegg also scored in every ride – taking advantage of a tremendous battle between Gareth Isherwood and Jake

Knight in heat 14 to take victory.

The gutsy Isherwood was involved in two of Heathens' three maximums – and although he ran two last places he also took two important wins.

Young reserve Nathan Greaves also made a useful contribution despite ending his night with two crashes as the home side put in a strong all-around showing.

However, four falls for Heathens riders means they will undoubtedly be disappointed not to have a greater advantage – yet they were still travelling to King's Lynn with a good chance of taking an historic National League title.

Burning desire to take title

DUDLEY skipper Ashley Morris is desperate to taste National League glory when the title is decided in the play-off final second leg at King's Lynn tonight.

The

table-topping

Heathens

will

carry

a

13

point

maximum

in

Tuesday

's

first

leg.

But he had hoped for a larger lead – although he remains confident Dudley can cap off a marvellous season with victory.

After experiencing Grand Final heartache 12 months ago, losing by a point on aggregate to Mildenhall, the 19-year-old has revealed his burning desire to win it with the Heathens.

He said: "We threw away a few points, but we managed to pull it together towards the end to give ourselves a pretty good chance.

"We wanted the biggest gap possible heading into the second leg, but hopefully 13 points is enough.

"I definitely didn't make it easy for myself but I managed to pull off a few hard moves to end unbeaten, so I really enjoyed it. It was a great night for me, but it won't mean much if we don't end up with the title."

Sports leave it late for cup win

Dudley Sports 2
Bilston Town 1

DUDLEY Sports progressed to the second round of the West Midlands League Cup thanks to a last-minute winner from Ben Davies.

Sports took the lead on five minutes through Joe O'Neil. Town's Lee Onions levelled in the second period. Just as extra time loomed Davies rifled home to set up a home to Ellesmere.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, October 10, 2013.

PENNEY DROPS IN FIRST YELTZ GOAL

Halesowen Town 3 Market Drayton Town 1

STRIKER Nigel Penney netted his first Halesowen goal and set up two more as the hosts returned to league action and moved up to fourth place.

Penney put the Yeltz in the driving seat after just 15 minutes by slamming home from close range after makeshift Market Drayton goalkeeper Matt Cohen failed with a left-wing ball.

With Halesowen looking a dangerous attacking force, efforts from Chris Lait and Ben Haseley were blocked.

That meant the ball was pinging around the visiting penalty area before Market Drayton's best chance of the first period fell for Yannick Makota, but he headed high in the 26th minute.

Hacked

But with home pressure growing ever more intense, another Penney shot was blocked and Haseley's follow-up was hacked off the line by Market Drayton captain Nick Porter.

However, man of the match Penney was on hand to turn the ball back for Lait to head home at the fast post and give the Yeltz a 2-0 lead in the 32nd minute.

Haseley had the simple task of tapping in Halesowen's third goal in the 52nd minute following further great work by Penney before he selflessly squared the ball along the goal.

With the points safe, industrious Lait brought

Yeltz

two flying saves from goalkeeper Cohen and a Joe Hull header was cleared off the line.

Lait's incisive crossfield pass then found substitute Aaron Griffiths free, only for the Gingerbreads' custodian Cohen to make an excellent save.

Kyle Blake gave the visitors a late 78th minute consolation goal by heading home at the far post.

Halesowen Town: Sam Pearson; Kristian Green, Adam Meacham, Chris Lait, Curtis Tilt, Joe Hull, Matthew Martin, Tom Tonks, Nigel Penney (Aaron Griffiths 67), Ben Haseley (Jean-Michel Gueyes 67), Elliott Turner (Neil Mackenzie 75).

Unused Subs: Brendan Kelly, Paul Evans (GK).

Market Drayton Town:

Matt Cohen; Nick Porter, Chris Peel, Josh Ruane, Jordan Hall, Sam Westray, Rob Stevenson, Kyle Blake, Yannick Makota (Carl Rogers 82), Martyn Davies, Craig Ryan (Dorrell Proffitt 77).

Unused Subs: James Billington, Sean Jones.

Referee: Simon Gudger

Attendance: 278

Tributes are paid to 'inspirational' Broadbent



Richard Stearman leads the tributes to Wolves legend Peter Broadbent before kick-off at Molineux

PETER BROADBENT was described as "truly special" by the club he made great as Wolverhampton paid its final respects to him.

Wolves chief executive Jez Moxey offered a fitting tribute to Broadbent, one of the greatest players in the club's history, who died last Tuesday at the age of 80. Moxey said: "Peter was one of the club's true greats. You don't inspire admiration from foot-

balling legends such as George Best and Sir Alex Ferguson without being something truly special."

"Peter was a player who not only helped the team to some wonderful successes, but also entertained the crowds with his incredible skill and much-famed body swerve."

Peter's wife Shirley, 78, attended the tribute to her late husband at Tuesday night's game against Notts

County in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy with son Gary, 53, who lives in Bloxwich, and daughter Debbie, 57, from Tettenhall Wood.

Gary's two daughters, Rosie, 14, and Mollie, 11, were Wolves mascots.

Wolves captain Richard Stearman led the family and ex-team-mates to lay flowers behind the Stan Cullis Stand goal before the game, while the crowd joined in a minute's applause.

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